

U.S. Pretrial Services Agency Central District of California

Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Report

October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

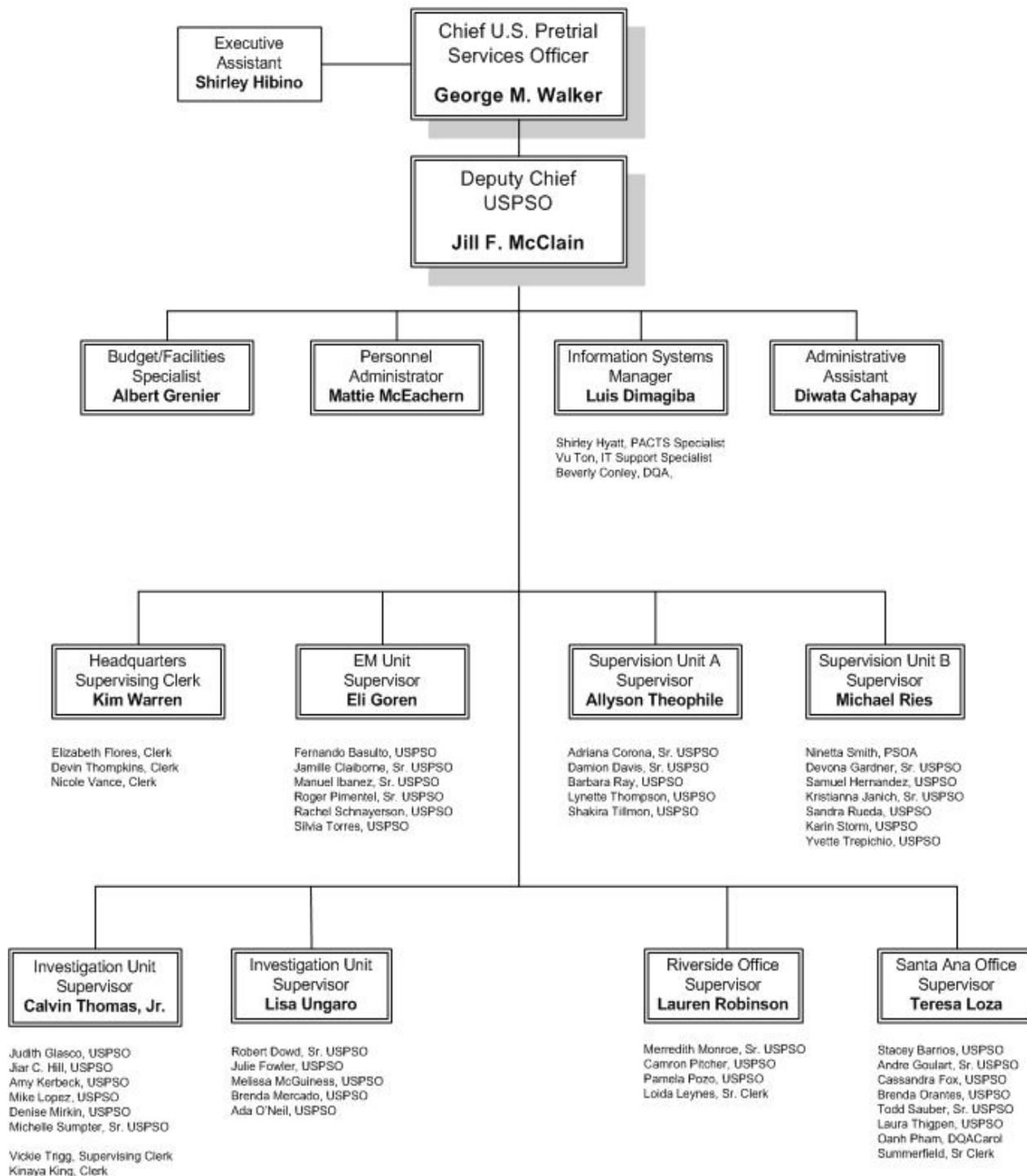


January 30, 2007

Prepared for the Administrative Office of the United States Courts
by George M. Walker, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

U.S. Pretrial Services Central District of California

as of September 30, 2006



U.S. Pretrial Services Agency
Central District of California
FY 2006 Annual Report

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Pretrial Services Office in the Central District of California is dedicated to conducting impartial bail investigations in an effort to minimize pretrial detention, and is committed to implementing comprehensive supervision strategies to enhance community safety and reduce nonappearance.

To Those We Serve We Are Committed To The Following Guiding Principles:

High Standards: Striving to provide the highest quality products thorough investigations, accurate and timely reports, and leading the way in community supervision and safety.

Integrity: Maintaining the highest level of respect, professionalism, accountability, and ethics.

Training: Providing progressive training to all staff to meet future challenges of the changing environment.

VISION

We will at all times aspire to be the national leader in Federal Pretrial Services.

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Chief's Summary

by George M. Walker, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

The U.S. Pretrial Services Agency for the Central District of California experienced another very successful but challenging year.

Although our case activations and the number of new defendants placed under our supervision dramatically declined for the second year in a row, we focused our attention and resources where they would make the most difference and positive impact. We were pleased to locally co-host two very large national training programs for our federal pretrial and probation brethren. The *National Symposium on Gangs* and the *National GPS/EM Conference and Workshop* collectively netted over 500 participants and both programs were highly praised for their quality of presenters, the very pertinent content and overall delivery.



One of our biggest challenges came in the form of a 9th Circuit opinion in *USA v Scott*, whereby the appeals court arguably struck down the time-tested ability for pretrial services to drug test defendants and to conduct court-ordered searches to ensure defendant compliance with certain release conditions. While some districts in the circuit felt that the opinion did not apply to the federal bail reform act and its provisions for drug testing of defendants, our own district and others felt otherwise. At the close of FY06, we were limited to conducting drug testing only on defendants who were convicted but still on release pending sentencing or self-surrender. We were hopeful, though, that FY07 would see our court revisit its reading of the opinion and reauthorize drug testing and court-ordered searches of pretrial defendants.

This year's annual report, like others before it, contains a wealth of information concerning our year's activities, challenges, successes, innovations, and much, much more historical information. We hope you find it interesting and perhaps useful.

Of special note, I would like to recognize the excellent work performed by our very motivated and committed staff of professionals. Without their hard work and commitment to excellence, we would not accomplish our continuing high level of service to the courts, defendants, and our community.

With responsibility for covering 7 counties that span more than 39,900 square miles and are comprised of a diverse population of more than 17 million citizens, we take great pride in being the largest separate pretrial services agency in the nation with regard to staffing and the second largest agency with regard to the number of cases supervised.

Workload

This year we experienced yet another significant reduction in the number of cases received for investigation, while the number of cases received for supervision subsequently declined. The reason for the continuing reduction in investigated cases is not only attributable to the decrease in Illegal Reentry cases, but also because of staffing challenges in the U.S. Attorney's Office, which

directly affects our workload and our funding. Other factors are considered to have also hindered our receipt of new cases...the impact of *USA v. Scott*, and a reduced number of courtesy supervision cases from other districts (also due to *Scott*). However, it is important to note that our *overall* workload continues to increase because we continue to receive more complex cases for supervision.

For a five-year comparison of all of our workload factors, please see the agency's FY2006 Statistics at the end of this report.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize our Investigation Unit, Supervision Units, and Electronic Monitoring Unit for the very large strides they made during this year in meeting their growing challenges, in showing creativity and innovation, and in helping out wherever/whenever needed.

Of course, we greatly value the excellent work by our Santa Ana and Riverside branch offices, whose officers and support staff "do it all" on a daily basis. Of special note, our Riverside Divisional Office staff are well-known for their ground-breaking piloting of new technologies, while our Santa Ana Divisional Office staff must be recognized for their increased electronic monitoring workload and significantly increased number of sex-offense related cases.

Unit and Divisional Office Reports

Headquarters Supervision Unit A

by *Allyson Theophile, Supervising USPSO*



New Staff

Three new officers were welcomed into the unit this fiscal year. These officers came from various agencies such as the Los Angeles County Probation Department and the Bureau of Prisons. The new officers came with varied backgrounds in criminal justice.

USPSO Barbara Ray is a graduate of California State University San Bernardino, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts Degrees in Criminal Justice. Prior to her employment with Pretrial Services, Barbara worked for the Federal Bureau of Prisons as a Correctional Officer.

USPSO Lynette D. Thompson is a graduate of California State University Dominguez Hills, where she earned Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts Degrees in Behavioral Science, with a concentration in Negotiation and Conflict Management. Prior to joining Pretrial Services, Lynette worked as an Investigator Aide with the Los Angeles County Probation Department, Pretrial Services Division.

USPSO Shakira Tillmon has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Science and is currently working on her Master's Degree in Sociology. Shakira most recently worked as an Investigator

Aide and Acting Senior Investigator Aide with the Los Angeles County Probation Department, Pretrial Services Division.

Additionally, the new officers attended the seventh academy class at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Charleston, NC. They indicated that they felt the training was very beneficial. I had the opportunity to observe some of the mock scenarios at the academy and was impressed by the training and the graduation ceremony.

Promotions / Successes

Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Adriana Corona-Buergo was recently selected as the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist (DATS). Adriana began her employment with the agency in 2001 and has been responsible for revamping the DATS policies and procedures, which has helped cost saving efforts. Adriana has assisted with drafting our agency's co-pay policy and revamping the Program Plan. Additionally, in an effort to reduce the spending of alternative to detention funding, Adriana diligently has sought out non-contract facilities to assist our clients with substance abuse issues. Adriana has also provided in-house substance abuse training, has worked closely with the U.S. Probation Office, and has kept abreast of current trends.

Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Damion Davis was recently promoted to the position of Mental Health Specialist. Damion began his career with Pretrial Services in 2001. He has a Master's Degree in Organizational Management and assists the local mental health program at the Los Angeles Metropolitan Medical Center on an off-duty, part-time basis. He has an impressive mental health background and has provided in-house mental health training, worked closely with the U.S. Probation Department, and has kept abreast of current mental health trends. Damion is currently supervising approximately 55 defendants with mental health issues of varying degrees.

During fiscal year 2006, the unit supervised approximately 232 cases of varying complexities, and approximately 17 violation reports were prepared by the unit. The officers worked diligently to minimize the issues of danger and non-appearance.

The officers continue to do an exceptional job, although at times the agency is required to do more with less resources. I would like to thank my unit and the agency as a whole for their continued dedication to the office and their fellow colleagues.

Headquarters Supervision Unit B **by Michael Ries, Supervising USPSO**

Supervision Unit B is composed of seven officers, including two senior officers and an officer assistant. During the past fiscal year, our unit supervised, on average, approximately 570 defendants at any given time. Despite our limited ability to conduct drug tests and searches, the officers did a commendable job of enforcing release conditions and ensuring the defendants appear for court. In addition to providing the court with comprehensive supervision services, the officers assisted the Investigations



Unit and satellite offices by completing 63 bail investigations during the course of the year.

In June 2006, the Interactive Voice Recognition (IVR) system was implemented, which has replaced the “mailer” form that minimal supervision defendants would use as their monthly report. Defendants placed on minimal supervision are enrolled in the IVR system at their intake, and they report to the system by phone on a monthly basis thereafter. The IVR system has proven to be an effective way to monitor a compliance caseload, and it has reduced the amount of paper handled by the officers. Thanks to a tremendous effort by Officer Karin Storm and Officer Assistant Ninetta Ball, a significant portion of the old mailer cases have already been converted to the IVR system.

Senior Officer Kristianna Janich, our Community Information Specialist, organized another highly successful Family Day, with over 30 participants. The group enjoyed a tour of the courthouse and presentations by several agencies. They were introduced to one of the FBI’s finest bomb-sniffing dogs. Officer Janich also produced several resources for the office, including a domestic violence outreach pamphlet, an employment flyer, and a brochure for the sex offender program. She also produced Spanish versions of many of these documents.

Senior Officer Devona Gardner continued to develop many employment resources for the agency and she has assisted numerous defendants with securing employment. In one of many cases where Officer Gardner has gone above and beyond, she assisted an 18-year old defendant in obtaining his GED and eventually gaining employment. The defendant, who had no education and few skills, has maintained employment for over six months now, and he has even begun making voluntary support payments for his child in Texas.

Officers Sam Hernandez, Sandra Rueda and Yvette Trepichio completed three weeks of new officer training at the new FLETC academy. They have proven to be highly dedicated team players, who routinely assist with electronic monitoring installations, transports, and investigations.

Although I have been with this unit for just a brief time, I have been impressed with their knowledge, professionalism, and support of each other, and I look forward to working with them and building on this foundation.

Headquarters GPS Electronic Monitoring Unit *by Eli Goren, Supervising USPSO*



From October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006, Pretrial Services conducted 2 searches. This is a significant decrease from previous years due mainly to the Scott decision.

On January 12, 2006, Pretrial Services Officers, in conjunction with U.S. Marshals, conducted a search on a defendant who was sentenced to 120 months custody of the BOP and was awaiting surrender. Due to violations of the electronic monitoring program, Pretrial Services requested a search to monitor the defendant’s

compliance and to verify he was, in fact, residing at the residence. No contraband was discovered at the residence and the defendant was admonished for his non-compliant behavior. The defendant subsequently surrendered to the BOP to commence serving his sentence.

On January 24, 2006, Pretrial Services Officers, along with the U.S. Marshal's Service, conducted a search on a defendant who had been arrested while on bond by local authorities for possession of a controlled substance. Pretrial Services had obtained search authority from the court based on the information obtained from local authorities. During the search, numerous items consistent with illegal substance use were discovered and seized. The court was notified of the findings and an Order to Show Cause hearing was requested.

GPS Electronic Monitoring Program Summary

by Jamille Claiborne, Sr. USPSO, EM Program Specialist



Throughout the fiscal year and since assuming the position of Electronic Monitoring Program Specialist in May 2006, the program has seen challenges and big achievements. During Fiscal 2006, we extended our contract with Sentinel Offender Services and have continued to strictly use Global Positioning Systems (GPS) to monitor a program which averages 175 defendants at any given time. During this fiscal year, we have seen the launch of Sentinel's docking station, which was put in place to ensure that GPS points and other information from the tracking device are downloaded to the company's server. In addition, we have seen changes to the company's website, which makes the officer's daily tasks easier.

In this fiscal year there were 207 activations, resulting in \$324,478 spent in total toward electronic monitoring services. In Fiscal Year 2005, the electronic monitoring program collected \$44,238 in co-payments. In Fiscal Year 2006, \$74,873 was collected in co-payments. We believe the continued increase of co-payments is based on the amount of payment options offered by the vendor and the hard work of the officers in the unit.

We continue to believe that EM/GPS technology is a priceless tool in the Pretrial Services Officer's toolbox of supervision. It holds the defendant responsible for his/her daily whereabouts and provides for truly effective monitoring. This has been exhibited numerous times throughout this year. On one occasion, an officer was able to verify that a sex offender was loitering at a little league baseball field. In another instance, a defendant reported staying at her father's residence when her GPS tracks showed her to be at a local hotel. In this fiscal year, the program had only two absconders.



The highlight of the year for the program came in September 2006. The Pretrial Services office of the Central District of California successfully hosted the National GPS/EM Symposium in Long Beach, California. What started out as an expected 100 attendee conference soon grew, as the news passed from officer to officer nationwide. In attendance was more than 150 federal pretrial services and probation officers from across the nation, eleven national and international GPS/EM vendors, and our distinguished presenters.



Chief Judge Alicemarie Stotler opens the ground-breaking national conference with a special welcome to the participants.



AO-OPPS Representative Trent Cornish addresses the group, highlighting the importance of good supervision techniques.



A special panel was convened to address participants' questions and concerns about GPS technology.



Most U.S. pretrial and probation offices from throughout the nation were represented at the event.

The focus of this groundbreaking symposium and workshop was to educate our fellow officers about the viability and superiority of GPS/EM technology, and to allow a platform for officers to share ideas and view the technology firsthand. We feel confident that all participants, including presenters and vendors, obtained valuable information about the technology, the needs of the officer and the future of GPS/EM programs.

In July 2006, the *Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act* was passed. This *Act*, revised the statutes regarding selected sex offenses and now requires the judicial officer to impose mandatory conditions of release. According to the amended *Bail Reform Act*, electronic monitoring is one of these mandatory conditions. With the passing of this *Act*, we expect the number of defendants referred to the electronic monitoring program to significantly increase.

At the end of Fiscal 2006, the electronic monitoring program found itself in search of a new

vendor to replace Sentinel Offender Services by the end of March 2007. This welcomed challenge will allow the program to find a vendor that truly meets the needs of the program and that is constantly updating their technology to remain in the forefront of the tracking of individuals. This challenge has been made easier by the maintenance of numerous relationships we have fostered over the years and the new ones we have established with electronic monitoring vendors. Based on these relationships, we have tested and actively used new technology in the field which included all-in-one piece devices from three different vendors. During these field tests, we have given several vendors suggestions which have caused them to improve parts of their electronic monitoring/GPS systems.

Fiscal Year 2007, promises great things for the electronic monitoring program. The program looks forward to the challenge of the expected transition to a new vendor. We also continue our efforts to ensure that our new vendor has the capability of crime scene correlation. In this upcoming year, we will continue our quest for new technology that will ensure our position at the forefront of electronic monitoring/GPS supervision.

Headquarters Clerical Unit

by Kim Warren, Supervising Clerk



During Fiscal Year 2006, the clerical unit at headquarters continued to perform multiple tasks. We provided ultimate support to the agency as a whole. Once again, our success was due to our team effort.

The composition of the support staff changed once again. Beverly Conley transferred to the Automation Unit. Nicole Vance joined our team as a temporary full-time clerk on January 9, 2006, and due to her diligence and hard work, she was promoted to a full-time permanent position in March. As our permanent receptionist, Liz Flores continued to meet and greet the public, and in recognition of his commitment to excellence, Devin Thompkins won the 2006 Support Staff of the Year Award.

We stayed busy this fiscal year. Just how busy? The following statistics will provide some insight. Between January and November 2006, there were 7,909 clients seen by Pretrial Services. Additionally, there were 1,017 collaterals processed and scanned. There were approximately 2,492 Second CIIs processed and scanned. Although we did not pull any closed files from the vault, as in previous years, we did scan 1,533 of the previously pulled closed files. As you can see, as a team, we are committed to converting paper and paper files into Docushare held files.

We continued to perform various duties and miscellaneous tasks. For example, we forwarded pertinent electronic information to officer staff via Psa-docs (or more recently Ecf). Also, we continued to proof and deliver letters to chambers or the CRD (Court Room Deputy). Both docket numbers and types of case are still being updated in the PACTS ECM database. Updates are based on the Post Indictment Arraignment (PIAs) weekly calendars. Additionally, we assisted staff in expanding files, stripping files, and closing files. The closed files have been shifted in the vault in order to accommodate additional closed files.

Our agency hosted numerous conferences and seminars, and our team had the opportunity to assist with special tasks. We copied and assembled materials for our 2006 Annual Retreat at the Crown Plaza Hotel, in Ventura, California. Also, we assisted staff with the Gang Symposium by assembling name tags, copying material, assembling and packaging folders. Additional support was provided in hosting the 2006 Family Day. During that event, support staff decorated, prepared folders, flyers and made name tags for the attendees.

Periodic individual assistance was provided throughout the year. Liz logged and distributed our monthly parking passes. She also kept a record of any office supplies needed at Headquarters. Nicole monitored and conducted an ongoing inventory of toners and cartridges for both the Investigation Unit and Headquarters. Nicole also regularly contacted Xerox regarding any problems or concerns with the high-speed Xerox Copier/Scanner.

At this time, I would like to thank my staff for their efficiency and team effort. They are all **greatly** appreciated.

Roybal Investigations Unit

by Calvin Thomas, Jr., Co-Supervising USPSO



In June 2006, the Investigations Unit (IU) and the agency said farewell to a beloved member in the system, Supervising Pretrial Services Officer Wilhelmina Jones, as she rode off into that place many long for called “retirement.” Shortly after Wilhelmina’s retirement, the IU was pleased to welcome Wilhelmina’s replacement, Supervising Pretrial Services Officer Lisa Ungaro. The transition has been smooth for the entire unit.

One other noteworthy transition occurred during this fiscal year: I began supervising Vicki Trigg, Supervising Clerk. She is responsible for supervising one clerical staff, Kinaya King. The two work extremely well together and are very instrumental in helping operations stay afloat.

As co-supervisor of the IU for the past four years, I’ve had the distinct pleasure of supervising a great group of officers, which is typically comprised of five to six. This past fiscal year that number remained unchanged, as have the officers assigned to the unit. Presently, four of the officers, Judith Glasco, Jiar Hill, Denisse Mirkin, and Senior Officer Michelle T. Sumpter, are here on a full-time, daily basis, and our one part-time employee, Amy Kerbeck, is on extended leave. The final officer, Michael Lopez, was called to active duty in June 2006 and is away serving this country. Our many well wishes and prayers go forth for him.

Unlike years past, this fiscal year saw a significant decrease in the number of cases investigated by the IU, approximately 800 cases, to be precise. Consistent with the decrease in investigation numbers, is the number of large-scale arrests the IU was involved in this fiscal year. We experienced only one this year which involved the Mexican Mafia and the 18th Street Gang. In speaking with many prosecuting attorneys, the decrease in our investigation numbers is due, in large part, to a decrease in the number of prosecutors available to prosecute cases. Thankfully, this is not expected to be an ongoing trend, and things are expected to return to normal at some

point in 2007-2008.

One of the biggest challenges faced by the IU this fiscal year, has been that of transitioning to a paperless environment by scanning all documents into a system called Docushare. Bringing this idea to fruition was not easy, as was to be expected. As with anything new, particularly technology, users experience growing pains. During the initial phases, officers seemed to experience technical glitches almost daily, which would, of course, impede productivity. But with a little perseverance, an upper management team committed to providing the latest technology, and the willingness of the automation team to respond to cries for help, those glitches have subsided a great deal.

Perhaps one of the more sweeping laws impacting pretrial services operations was passed in July 2006, when President Bush signed into law the Adam Walsh Child Protection Safety Act (AWCPSA) that mandates the court impose specific conditions of release for defendants charged with sex crimes involving minors, as well as for failing to register as a sex offender. In times past, many of the now-required conditions may not have been viewed by an investigator as necessary to address nonappearance and danger to the community, but the passage of this act has taken the guess work out of the equation.

The passage of the AWCPSA also returned to the court and pretrial services the ability to recommend detention based on danger alone, a function we were each relieved of with the United States v. Twine decision. The overall sentiment is that the passage of this act greatly enhances the safety of the community, particularly that of children. It is also believed that this act must, at some point, address other charges that were not included.

As previously mentioned, I have the pleasure of supervising what I believe to be a very good group of officers. They are undeniably an excellent set of team players who are interested in the success of the agency, the success of their coworkers, and of course their own success. They are very proficient at their assigned functions and are always seeking opportunities to enhance their growth as officers and professionals. For example, Officer Mirkin successfully completed a five-week safety training offered at FLETC and she recently completed a 30-day tour of duty with Pretrial Services in Chicago, Illinois. She went during a time when that office was undergoing major restructuring and her assistance proved to be invaluable. Finally, she remains a very active participant on the agency's social committee.

In addition to the above, Senior Officer Sumpter continues to serve as the district's material witness coordinator, and she regularly serves as acting supervisor. Officer Kerbeck remains an active member on the district Critical Incident Stress Management Team. Officer Hill remains an active member of the district's Sex Offender Team and is one of three officers who regularly prepare summons reports and provide backup for the lead officer when necessary. In addition, he routinely serves as acting supervisor, when needed.

Last, but certainly not least, Officer Glasco was one member, among many from U.S. Pretrial

Services and Probation, who helped coordinate and host the district's first-ever National Symposium on Gangs. This event played host to over 300 attendees, many of whom were our colleagues from other districts around the country.

In closing, it has been a very good year, despite the numbers. The consistency in staffing, in my opinion, has fostered a greater sense of comradery, which has contributed to a superb office environment. We have a great bunch here and I look forward to working with them in the new year.

Roybal Investigations Unit

by Lisa Ungaro, Co-Supervising USPSO



Upon Supervising USPSO Wilhelmina Jones' retirement, I transferred from one of our headquarters supervision units to replace Wilhelmina, as co-supervisor to Calvin Thomas in our Investigation unit. Calvin and I started our careers with Pretrial Services together 10 years ago, and I was looking forward to working with him again.

Since July, I have supervised one of the two sub-units in the Investigations unit. Team members to date include USPSO Julie Fowler, USPSO Melissa McGuinness, USPSO Brenda Mercado, and USPSO Ada Castillo-O'Neil.

Sr. USPSO Robert Dowd, who accepted a position as a U.S. Probation/Pretrial Services Officer for the District of Colorado, spent his last official day in the office on August 10, 2006. After many years of good and faithful service to our agency and our courts, we knew we would miss Robert and his family.

Julie Fowler re-established herself in the Investigation unit in January of this year. She has an excellent grasp of the duties and responsibilities associated with the interview, verification of information, case clearance, and the preparation of the investigation report prior to a defendant's arraignment before the Magistrate. Ada Castillo-O'Neil was assigned to handle the Summons cases with the assistance of our unit as necessary. Although summons matters are primarily handled by Ada, other officers still gain valuable hands-on experience in assisting her. I would also like to note that Ada is a member of our newly formed Gang Awareness Team (GAT).

Brenda Mercado continues to serve as back-up for our Material Witness Coordinator. She monitors the cases on a monthly basis and prepares violation reports for the court as necessary. She continues to evaluate potential sureties for the material witnesses and if all of the paper work is in order, she approves the bond. Once the bond is approved, Brenda reviews conditions of release with the material witnesses and commences supervision. Melissa McGuinness serves as one of our two primary back-ups in handling Summons cases.

Roybal Investigations Clerical Unit

by *Vickie Trigg, Supervising Clerk*



Our FY2006 team:

Vickie Ann Trigg – Supervisor
Kinaya King – Clerk

FY2006 proved another outstanding year for the Support Staff Unit of Roybal. Changes and challenges were met with positive results.

During FY2006, I served on the planning committee for the retirement party of Supervising Pretrial Services Officer Wilhelmina Jones (June). In addition, I spearheaded both the retirement party for Data Quality Analyst, Beverly Perry (September) and the farewell party of Sr. Officer Robert Dowd (August).

Our *team* remained constant, as did our team approach to the workload. Ms. King has been a pleasure to work with, and has proven herself both versatile and invaluable within the unit. She has readily assisted often, whenever and wherever needed. The harmony she has created, as well as her commitment for seeing a task to completion, is greatly appreciated. In her second year, Ms. King continued to demonstrate her ability to adapt to ever-evolving technology and she has routinely assisted Shirley Hyatt with PACTS-related projects.

Many of the primary tasks once assigned to support staff exclusively are now being performed by officers and Fiscal Year 2006 also saw a decrease in investigations as well. The support staff unit continued to provide invaluable assistance in the day-to-day functions of the Investigations Unit. Ms. King completed a two-hour rap sheet training course provided by Senior Pretrial Services Officer Michelle T. Sumpter and is now competent to assist officers in interpreting / transcribing the prior record section of their reports. Ms. King has received compliments from various officers for her assistance.

Transitions: June 30, 2006 brought to conclusion the 20-year career of Supervising United States Pretrial Services Officer Wilhelmina Jones, my supervisor, my mentor and my friend. In her parting, I am now under the very capable supervision of Calvin Thomas, Jr., who has made the transition smooth.

Challenges: One of our chief's goal is to attain a paperless environment. The next natural step in this effort has been the implementation of an internet-supported, document storing program called DocuShare. To that end, in FY2006, we received new printers with scanner capability and training. As in most instances when change is introduced and technology is new, we experienced glitches, uncertainties and "cyber" challenges. However, with the tireless effort of a fantastic, committed and patient IT team, and a "can do" commitment, we have become proficient in its use. Currently, all Intake Sheets (requests for records checks), unassigned, charging, and court-

related documents, as well as miscellaneous paperwork (TBAs), have been scanned into DocuShare.

The support staff unit continues as a team of two and *“teamwork”* remains synonymous with our approach. As supervisor, my duties are both shared and delegated.

The success of FY2006 could not have been accomplished without the assistance of the many named and unnamed staff. Special recognition is again given to Ms. Kinaya King whose commitment and efforts, together with the assistance and support of supervisors Wilhelmina Jones, Calvin Thomas, Jr., and more recently, Lisa Ungaro, have contributed to another successful year!

Southern Division Office, Santa Ana
by Teresa Loza, Supervising USPSO



Pretrial Services in Santa Ana is proud to announce that once again, we have completed another stellar year. This year, our office completed **462 Pretrial investigations**. The staff in Santa Ana provided the court with complete, thorough and objective reports.

We continued to provide a high level of service to our judicial staff, which consisted of Chief U.S. District Judge Alicemarie H. Stotler, U.S. District Judge David O. Carter, U.S. District Judge Cormac J. Carney, and U.S. District Judge James V. Selna. This fiscal year, we welcomed our newest member to the bench, U.S. District Judge Andrew Guilford, and we look forward to providing him with the same level of service.

We also served our U.S. Magistrate Judges, Arthur Nakazato and Marc L. Goldman. This fiscal year, we also welcomed U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert N. Block to the Santa Ana Courthouse. He has been a positive addition to our division and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge.

The Santa Ana Divisional Office currently staffs four full time officers, two part-time officers, two clerical staff, and one supervisor.

Our Senior Officers, Andre Goulart and Todd Sauber, maintain specialty caseloads in addition to their regular everyday “on-line” responsibilities. Senior Officer Goulart is our Special Offender Specialist. He maintains a full caseload and monitors the majority of our mental health and electronic monitoring cases. Mr. Goulart is also our Search Coordinator, and although the number of cases with search conditions has decreased due to the recent Scott decision, Mr. Goulart keeps our office abreast of current issues and policies.

Senior Officer Todd Sauber is our Safety Coordinator and maintains a full caseload as well. In addition to monitoring complex cases, he has taken our office to a new dimension in terms of officer safety. Officers have been fitted with ballistic vests, provided with and trained on the use of OC spray, trained with the use of firearms, and provided with self defense tactical training.

Mr. Sauber also holds on-going safety training classes throughout the year for the entire Pretrial Services staff.

Pretrial Officers Stacey Barrios and Brenda Orantes joined our office during this fiscal year. They are responsible for both investigation and supervision assignments on a daily basis. They have both assisted Senior Officers Andre Goulart and Todd Sauber with defendant transports, residential placements and electronic monitoring installations. They maintain full caseloads and have demonstrated the ability to meet the ongoing challenges of investigation and supervision assignments.

Pretrial Officers Laura Thigpen and Cassandra Fox have been with our agency for several years, however, this fiscal year they began working in Santa Ana on a part-time basis. Although their primary focus is conducting investigations, Ms. Thigpen and Ms. Fox play key roles in our office, assisting with defendant transports, placements and electronic monitoring installations.

Our office is fortunate to have two support staff, Oanh Pham and Carol Summerfield. They are equally responsible for clerical duties, which includes overseeing data entry, front desk reception duties, assisting officers in conducting criminal records checks, delivering correspondence to court and generally maintaining the office.

Oanh Pham is our Data Quality Analyst and has been with our office since 1988. Throughout the years, Ms. Pham has provided invaluable assistance with our Vietnamese speaking defendants. In addition to her clerical duties, she is also responsible for ensuring that our PACTS entries are error free.

Carol Summerfield joined our office this fiscal year. She comes with many years of experience and has become a real asset. In addition to clerical responsibilities, which also includes overseeing PACTS data, Ms. Summerfield is the first point of contact at the reception area and our office would not excel without her tremendous professionalism.

In summary, the Santa Ana Divisional Office has excelled on every level during this fiscal year. All court orders have been complied with, even though the work may have taken us beyond the routine work hours and into the evening. Because of everyone's cooperation and teamwork, we have been able to meet the challenge and we look forward to another rewarding year.

Eastern Division Office, Riverside

by Lauren Robinson, Supervising USPSO



Division Supervisor
Lauren Robinson

Pretrial Services Officers
Camron Pitcher
Merredith Monroe /Senior
Rachel Schnayerson
Pamela Pozo

Data Quality Analyst
Beverly Conley

Data Quality Analyst
Loida Leynes

This past fiscal year brought several staff changes to the Riverside Divisional Office. In October, Senior Clerk and Data Quality Analyst Beverly Conley transferred to Los Angeles. In June, the office also lost Officer Rachel Schnayerson when she transferred to the Electronic Monitoring Unit in Los Angeles. The loss of both was significantly felt in the day-to-day operations of the office. Officer Schnayerson will be replaced by Officer Brenda Orantes, who is currently assigned to the Santa Ana Divisional Office. The vacancy left by Beverly Conley will not be filled.

The Riverside Divisional Office also saw a number staff accomplishments. In February, Officer Merredith Monroe was officially promoted to Special Offender Specialist. Officer Monroe is heavily involved in the supervision of four to six electronic monitoring cases and an even higher number sex offender cases. She continues as a member of the Sex Offender Management Team. In April, Officer Monroe was also involved in testing one of the latest versions of PACTS.

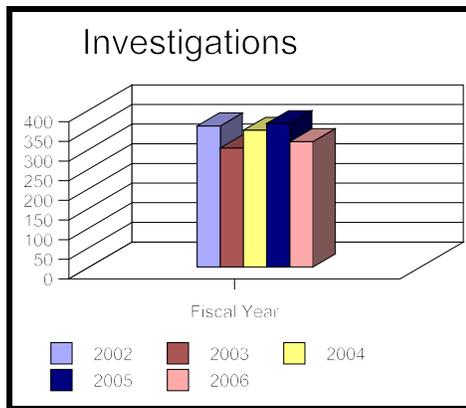
Officer Camron Pitcher successfully introduced and launched “Keys To Successful Incarceration,” (KTSI), an innovative and needed program that educates defendants sentenced to incarceration about federal prison and provides them with related materials. By the end of the fiscal year, Officer Pitcher held nine KTSI sessions with defendants and family/friends, for a total of 105 attendees.

KTSI was also featured in the February 27, 2006 issue of *News and Views*. As a result, over 23 districts nationwide have inquired about implementing a similar program in their districts. Officer Pitcher was nominated for, and received, the Improvement/Innovation Award for KTSI at the agency’s annual retreat.

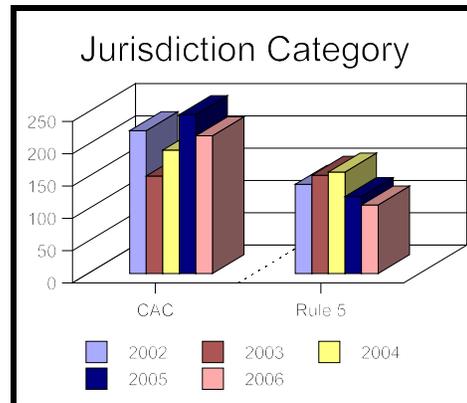
In April, Officer Pamela Pozo was designated as the agency’s Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team Coordinator. Officer Pozo is actively involved in the leadership of the CISM Team and attending training sessions.

Senior Clerk Loida Leynes was promoted to fill the Riverside Division Data Quality Analyst (DQA) position in September. She will continue to perform in the same capacity, but will have the added responsibility of ensuring data quality in PACTS. She joins two other DQAs as part of the agency’s DQA team.

The office conducted fewer investigations this past fiscal year. With 319 cases investigated, we were only slightly higher than Fiscal Year 2003, with 303 cases investigated (see Graph 1). The majority of our investigations continued to be in-district filings at 213, while Rule 5 investigations were at a historic low of 106 (see Graph 2).



Graph 1



Graph 2

Supervision caseloads remained at a steady average of 40 to 50 cases per officer. However, the complexity of the cases or defendants supervised has evolved into a larger number of sex offenders that are charged with crimes against minors. These cases usually have court-imposed electronic monitoring/global positioning satellite surveillance, counseling, and a host of sex offender conditions.

The office completed test piloting the web-based Xerox DocuShare Management System, a paperless file management and scanning program. The end result has been successful - district offices have been trained and are now using the system. With the exception of a number of closed files, all of the Riverside Office's investigation/detention and supervision files are scanned, due in a large part to our senior clerk staff. Long gone are the days of a "hard or paper file." The office's next pilot project will be to test a defendant risk assessment tool developed by Modeling Solutions.

As a faculty member of the Federal Judicial Center, I completed my first course of classes for the New Supervisors Program that focuses on building outstanding supervisors. Assisting with the facilitation of break-out groups and presenting program material was challenging, yet very rewarding. I am looking forward to my continued involvement.

As always, the success of the Riverside Office must be attributed to the committed and hard working staff that daily serves to accomplish the mission of the agency. Thank you for a job extremely well done!



Human Resources Overview
by Mattie McEachern, Personnel Administrator

The total workforce of the agency during FY06 consisted of 70 staff members. The gender makeup of the staff, including the reduction in

workforce, is as follows: 71% female; 29% male. We have a very diverse staff to include: 29% Caucasian; 37% African American; 23% Hispanic; and 11% Asian. No other ethnic groups were represented.

The staff consisted of the following: 23% administrative and supervisory; 19% support staff; 44% officer staff; and 14% senior officer/specialists.

We had seven new appointments this fiscal year compared to 15 in FY05—a 53% decrease. Of the new appointments, 43% were appointed as officer staff and 57% as clerical/support staff. Three officer staff continue to work on a permanent part-time basis compared to two in FY05; the remaining workforce is classified as full-time permanent. Twenty percent of the staff were promoted to either higher classification levels or to higher level positions.

Retirements, transfers, and resignations accounted for 10% of the total staff. Three percent of the staff retired, one of which was mandatory; 3% of the staff voluntarily/involuntarily resigned, and 4% transferred within the federal judiciary. The attrition workforce accounted for 7% officer staff and 3% support staff.

We have fully staffed offices in the following courthouses: Ronald Reagan Federal Courthouse in Santa Ana (Southern Division), George E. Brown, Jr. Courthouse in Riverside (Eastern Division), Edward R. Roybal Courthouse (Western Division), and our headquarters office in the U.S. District Courthouse in Los Angeles. The majority of our staff—57%—is housed in our Los Angeles-based headquarters office with the remaining 43% in Santa Ana, Riverside, and the Edward R. Roybal Courthouse in Los Angeles.

Two employees retired from U. S. Pretrial Services with a combined total of 44½ years of service. **Wilhelmina Jones**, Supervisory Pretrial Services Officer, was mandatorily retired on June 30, 2006, ending a 20-year career in the criminal justice field. During her tenure with the agency, she was commended for the outstanding services she provided to the agency as well as to the courts. Wilhelmina was honored at a retirement party at the Wyndham Hotel in the City of Commerce.



U.S. District Court Judge Consuelo Marshall presented her with a certificate from the Administrative Office in Washington, D.C., and George Walker, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, presented her with a plaque from the agency acknowledging her years of federal service. She was also honored and recognized by other federal agencies for outstanding services. Wilhelmina currently resides in Culver City.



After being sworn-in, new officers (left to right) Barbara Ray, Shakira Tillmon, and Lynette Thompson pose with Chief Walker, Chief Magistrate Judge Zarefsky, and Chief Judge Stotler.



Beverly A. Conley, Data Quality Analyst, retired on September 29 after having completed 24½ years of service in the court system. Beverly was honored at El Torito Restaurant on September 16 in Manhattan Beach. George Walker, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, presented Beverly with a certificate from the Administrative Office in Washington, DC and a plaque from the agency acknowledging her years of federal service. She was commended for a job well done. Beverly currently resides in Texas.

Budget & Facilities Overview

by Al Grenier, Director of Budget/Facilities



BUDGET

The U.S. Pretrial Services agency for the Central District of California received a total of \$6,190,458 in funding for fiscal year 2006. This represented an increase of 12.45% from the \$5,508,747 received in FY05.

This increase in funds allowed staff to actively attend a variety of conferences, meetings, and training sessions. In addition to the increase in training and related travel, we were also able to host some well-produced national conferences including a Gang Symposium and a GPS/EM Conference. Also, the staff attended a combined training session/retreat in August in Ventura, California.

Included in our budget was a special funding grant of \$58,800 for the Pretrial/Probation Automated Reporting System (PPARS) project. We requested half the allotment in FY06, with the remaining amount available for use in FY07.

The amount designated for personnel compensation (salaries, separation incentives, cash awards) increased from \$4,310,665 in FY05 to \$4,904,414 in FY06. This was an increase of nearly 14% from the previous fiscal year. These funds that were used for Salaries and compensation-related expenditures accounted for 79.2 of our total obligations in FY05 (up a slight amount from the previous year).

Alternatives to Detention equaled 11.1% of our expenditures in FY06. This was just 2.4% less than the 13.5% our the total budget spent in this category in FY05. The amount spent on Electronic monitoring increased nearly 40%, while Mental Health expenditures rose over 50%. Drug Aftercare, Urinalysis, and Supplies all registered a decrease in spending.

The table below shows the dollar amount of funds designated for each budget category for each of the past three fiscal years.

Fiscal Year Funds by Category

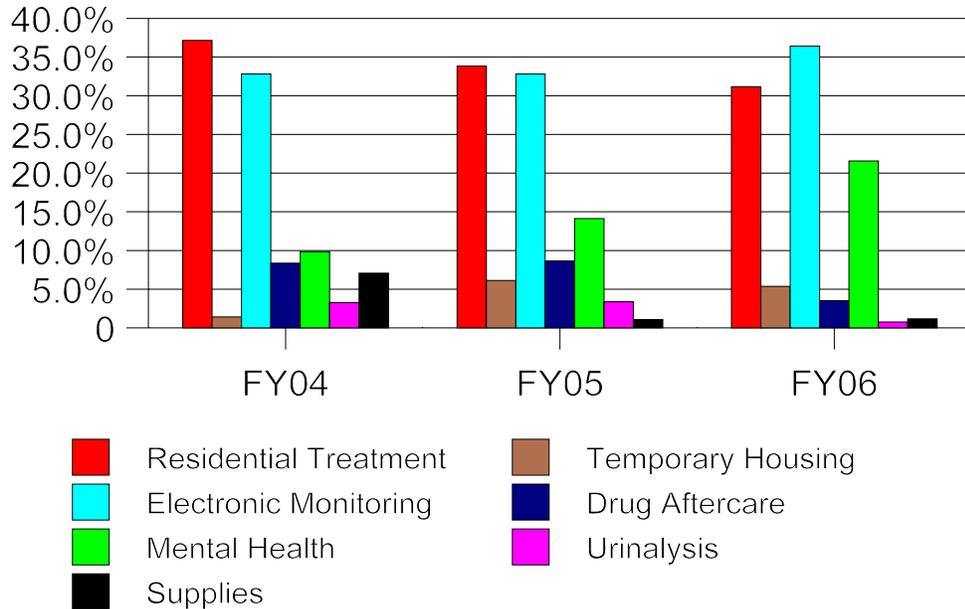
	<u>FY04</u>	<u>FY05</u>	<u>FY06</u>
Compensation	\$4,034,255	\$4,310,665	\$4,653,739
Alternatives to Detention	\$ 898,052	\$ 736,441	\$ 696,337
Automation	\$ 136,612	\$ 234,542	\$ 324,907
Expenses	\$ 87,085	\$ 125,749	\$ 357,739
Travel	\$ 45,509	\$ 101,350	\$ 133,204

**Alternatives to Detention Expenses
 FY04 - FY06**

	<u>FY04</u>	<u>FY05</u>	<u>FY06</u>
Residential Treatment	\$262,926	\$240,395	\$215,579
Temporary Housing	\$ 10,162	\$ 43,545	\$ 37,112
Electronic Monitoring	\$232,226	\$233,243	\$251,940
Drug Aftercare	\$ 59,243	\$ 61,393	\$ 24,371
Mental Health	\$ 69,735	\$100,468	\$149,255
Urinalysis	\$ 23,190	\$ 24,031	\$ 5,255
Supplies	\$ 50,112	\$ 7,599	\$ 8,239

The following graph shows the percentage of funds designated to each budget category for each of the past three fiscal years.

Alternatives to Detention Breakdown of Expenses



FACILITIES

Although no new construction projects took place in any of our facilities, the year was spent in maintaining a pleasant work environment for the staff. Walls were painted, carpets were shampooed, and some minor reconfiguration of cubicles resulted in a clean and comfortable work space for Pretrial employees.

In addition, every employee received a new ergonomically designed desk chair. These chairs not only offer an improvement in comfort, but they are designed to alleviate common workplace aches and pains that arise from performing repetitive tasks or from sitting in one position too long.

With our FY06 funds we were also able to have the carpeting replaced in the Chief’s suite, as the old floor covering had become terribly stained after many years of use. The new carpeting now provides a bright, clean, and attractive alternative.



Information Technology Overview

by Luis Dimagiba, Director of Information Technology

The Pretrial Electronic Case-file System has been working very well for Pretrial Services. To date, we have over 60,000 documents scanned and saved in Docushare. A file or an entire case file can be sent electronically to other districts and agencies.

In November 2005, the Administrative Office asked us to test PACTS Proof of Concept Central Hosting. The testing was a success and on January 9, 2006, we went live and started using the

centrally hosted PACTS server.



Vu Ton, IT Support Specialist, joined the IT Department in January of 2006. Vu has been a valuable addition to us. He is responsible for user support and has gained the respect of the entire staff because of his excellent attitude and work ethic.

The Nextel phones were replaced with Palm Treo 700w PDAs from Verizon Wireless. The new PDA phones give us the ability to take photos, to connect remotely to the web and our web-based tools such as PACTS and Lotus Notes, and much more.



ATLAS (Access To Law Enforcement Systems) was tested by a few officers and has been proven to be a valuable tool for defendant records checks. I was selected as one of the national ATLAS Administrators and was trained on how to diagnose and resolve ATLAS problems.

As part of the cyclical replacement program, laptops and desktops that were three years and older were upgraded this fiscal year. Officers in the branch offices and the Investigations Office received new computers and scanners.

In May of 2006, I was appointed to be a member of the ERS (Electronic Reporting System) Committee. The committee met in May to evaluate the various electronic reporting systems that are being used in the courts. One of the systems that we evaluated is our kiosk terminal, using fingerprint authentication. Adobe forms, online web reporting, and interactive voice recognition were also evaluated.



Last, but not the least, we tested and implemented a kiosk system in the headquarters office. This was a result of a grant from the Administrative Office and a combined effort between our Pretrial and Probation office and the New Jersey Pretrial Office.

The Kiosk is the new Pretrial and Probation Automated Reporting System that allows a defendant to report to the office using a touch screen computer and a fingerprint reader for verification. This eliminates filling out a paper copy of the reporting slip. A chronological notes entry is automatically submitted in PACTS after the defendant completes the kiosk reporting.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES REPORTS

Material Witness Program Overview

by Michelle Sumpter, Sr. USPSO, MatWit Program Specialist



During the fiscal Year 2006, the Material Witness Program continued to strengthen relationships with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection. Additionally, we have provided guidance and assistance to the United States Attorney's Office, the CJA Panel Attorneys, and the Federal Public Defender's Office (FPD). While strengthening these relationships and providing open communication, we have aided in coordinating large scale material witness designations and in expediting the designation and release of witnesses.

During this fiscal year, we have encountered several designations of non-immigration witnesses by the government, as well as, defense counsel. These witnesses have been designated with additional conditions of release outside of the standard material witness conditions and reporting instructions. We have worked diligently with the court to ensure that these witnesses are available to testify in various hearings.

Due to the continued change in security regulations of several buildings and airports requiring everyone to possess identification, we continued to provide material witnesses with a form of identification for the purpose of travel and reporting to Pretrial Services. This identification indicates that the person pictured is a witness under the noted case number and is created on agency letterhead. Additionally, the identification includes the case agent's contact information, as a well as, the material witness's address and phone number. To date, there have not been any problems with our witnesses traveling to live with their families in other states.

During this fiscal year, Pretrial Services has encountered several juvenile material witnesses. We have worked with ICE agents and the FPD's Office to secure temporary housing for these individuals. We have worked closely with Angel's Flight and the Legal Aid Society to locate bed space, clothing, education, and immigration legal services for these witnesses. Several of the juvenile witnesses were given asylum and the ability to reside in the United States legally.

Pretrial Services works closely with the Interpreter's Office, as the make up of the material witness caseload continues to change. Our forms have been translated into Korean, as well as other languages. We have had to call upon the Interpreter's office for assistance with Punjabi, Armenian, and Tamil languages, in addition to Spanish, Mandarin and Korean.

During this fiscal year, Officer Brenda Mercado has assisted in supervising material witnesses and monitoring the caseload from time to time. She is presently supervising ten material witnesses who are a part of a prostitution smuggling ring. She presently is approving sureties and assisting with language translations.

A large percent of the material witnesses have been placed on minimal supervision, which includes monthly telephone reporting and / or reporting by mail using a monthly mail-in report. Our reporting instructions, coupled with ICE reporting requirements, allow material witnesses to be prepared for trial and depositions. Additionally, the constant contact with the witnesses and their family members allow ICE to conduct exit interviews and aid in self-deportations.

Currently, the majority of our material witness cases involve alien smuggling for financial gain or for the purpose of sex trafficking and prostitution, however, we have a few witnesses who have

key testimony in corrupt immigration practices of attorneys and in other federal cases.

Presently, Pretrial Services has a total of 105 cases. The break down is as follows:

▶ Courtesy IN supervision cases:	8
▶ Detention or No Supervision Ordered:	15
▶ In District Supervision (Complaint / Indictment):	63
▶ In District Supervision (Criminal Miscellaneous):	19

Staff Safety Program Overview

by Todd Sauber, Sr. USPSO, Staff Safety Program Specialist



Over the last year, Pretrial Services further solidified its commitment to officer safety by offering regularized, innovative training programs. All officers attended 16 hours of safety training, with numerous officers taking advantage of optional training opportunities which were offered throughout the year. The training entailed classroom review of safety-related issues, including the use of force continuum, detecting terrorist threats, and a review of proper preparation prior to conducting field work.

Following the classroom discussion, students engaged in a physically demanding combination of defensive tactics, oleoresin capsicum (oc) techniques, and scenario-based training. Held in small class settings of 10-12 officers, this training reinforced the fundamentals of officer safety. By having all officers attend safety training every six months, the goal is to continually reinforce the importance of officer awareness and safety.

One highlight of the past year was the transition to a new and improved oc product. Over the last year, all officers were certified and issued the AO-approved, Def-Tech MK-3. This new safety tool has several important safety benefits. First and foremost, it is a stream product rather than a cone spray. This delivery system enables officers to use this tool from a much greater distance (approximately 15 feet rather than 4-6 feet with the spray). Additionally, the product has a safety trigger mechanism which greatly reduces the possibility of accidental discharges. Thanks to these safety features and others, the officer staff welcomed the transition to this state-of-the-art oc tool.

On a personal level, the last year was particularly rewarding due to the opportunity I had to attend the Initial Officer Safety Instructor (ISIC) training program. This two-week training program was held in Charleston, South Carolina, at FLETC (Federal Law Enforcement Training Center) from August 14- 25, 2006. This highly intensive, train-the-trainer program provided an opportunity to learn key teaching techniques, while making important contacts with other safety instructors throughout the federal system.

The past year has been marked with numerous examples of our district's on-going commitment to officer safety. Let me take this opportunity to thank Chief Walker for his unmitigated support of our agency's officer safety program. I would also like to thank SPSO Eli Goren and Sr. USPSO Jamille Claiborne, the other instructors on our agency's safety team, for all of their hard work. Finally, let me also extend a special thanks to the entire staff for the positive attitudes and

willingness to learn that they bring to each training program we offer. We should all be very proud of our collective commitment to officer safety.

Mental Health Program Overview

by Damion T. Davis, Sr. USPSO, Mental Health Program Specialist



The FY 2006 Mental Health Services Program of the United States Pretrial Service Agency for the Central District of California (CAC) can arguably be described as a transition year. The MH program has taken on new leadership by appointing Pretrial Services Officer Damion T. Davis as the new Mental Health Specialist. Officer Davis has served the U.S. Pretrial Services Agency for the past five years, working primarily in the supervision unit. His background includes working in the non-profit sector with community agencies that assist individuals and families in procuring mental health resources and social services.

FY2006 was a contract negotiation year for procuring services for mental health and substance abuse. Pretrial Services continues to utilize mental health and substance abuse services throughout the CAC through contract negotiations conducted and secured by the United States Probation Office. During this year, mental health and substance abuse services within the CAC were expanded to include contract facilities that service the San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys.

In addition to expanding the catchment area for various mental health treatment modalities, several new facilities were awarded contracts to provide services for the Pretrial Services Agency. Driver Safety School, Inc., Tarzana Treatment (Antelope Valley), and Behavioral Health Services will all provide both mental health and substance abuse treatment services.

Pretrial Services referred defendants for a wide array of mental health services from both contract and non-contract facilities. Officers were encouraged to utilize non-contract and private mental health vendors for services to aid our agency in reducing service expenses. In FY 2006 the U.S. Pretrial Agency expended approximately \$125,000 for mental health services. A large percentage of the treatment expenses were dispensed for the following services:

- Individual Mental Health Counseling
- Group Mental Health Counseling (Sex Offender)
- Psychotropic Medication
- Medication Monitoring
- Long-Term Residential for Co-Occurring Disorder

U.S. Pretrial Services Moving Forward



During FY 2006 Officer Davis spearheaded the beginning of a series of agency mental health in-services. The first series of in-services provided an overview of frequently encountered mental health diagnosis, utilized contract facilities, and agency referral policies, and procedures. The Pretrial Services mental health program will continuously offer mental health training to officer staff, promote continuity of services consistent with the U.S. Probation Agency, serve as an in-house reference for officer staff regarding specific mental health issues, and provide officers access to the most up to date community mental health resources available.

In an effort to provide the highest quality of service to our defendants in areas outside of headquarters, the mental health committee will continue its mission. The mental health committee, comprised of senior officers who work in our satellite offices (Santa Ana and Riverside), was formed in FY 2005 to assist the agency with servicing defendants who are in need of mental health services. The mental health committee provides assistance regarding mental health issues in magistrate court during initial appearances, detention hearings, bail reviews, and community supervision.

Pretrial Services will continue its quest to provide the highest quality of service to the courts and the most involved community supervision, which includes providing necessary mental health resources to our defendants.

Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services Program Overview *by Adriana Corona-Buergo, Sr. USPSO, DATS*



Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 brought many changes to the Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services program. In October 2005, the national drug testing laboratory contract was awarded to Scientific Testing Laboratories (STL). The Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist (DATS) at that time (Amber Michaelis) was responsible of setting up new user accounts for all officers. Additionally, accounts needed to be set up for all drug testing contract facilities throughout the Central District of California (CAC).

In June 2006, Kroll Laboratories purchased STL. As a result, STL changed the shipment procedures for urine samples. On August 1, 2006, STL began using DHL for the shipment of all urine specimens to their laboratory. As a result, the DATS officer was responsible for setting up accounts with DHL and providing training and information to staff regarding the new change.

The most significant change was our Court's interpretation of the U.S. v. Scott decision on October 5, 2006. District Judges in the CAC determined that defendants could not legally be required to submit to random drug testing nor a search of their person and/or property pre-adjudication. As such, judges in the CAC were instructed to not impose such conditions of release. This made the task of monitoring illegal drug use by defendants impossible. As the current DATS officer, I was required to be creative when I suspected a defendant was using illegal drugs. I relied heavily on observation and developing a good rapport with defendants.

For example, a young female defendant was released on bail without a drug testing condition or treatment order. However, due to the allegations (Possession of Stolen Mail), I made inquiries into her personal life and history of drug use. The defendant initially admitted to using methamphetamine but not abusing it. During an office visit, I showed her a before and after photo of a female who had been abusing methamphetamine for many, many years. This obviously impacted the defendant as she subsequently admitted to needing substance abuse treatment. Due to her admission and willingness to enter a program, Pretrial Services was able to modify her bond to include residential drug treatment.

The general defendant population also seemed to change in FY 2006. Pretrial Services saw more defendants in need of co-occurring disorder treatment, as well as a rise in defendants needing sex offender treatment in addition to the substance abuse treatment. In FY 2006, Pretrial Services had

one contract with a residential treatment facility for defendants with a co-occurring disorder. As of yet, Pretrial Services has been unable to secure a contract with a facility that houses sex offenders with a substance abuse problem at a technically acceptable price.

I assumed the position of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist in April 2006. In June 2006, I attended a one-week Simplified Procurement Training hosted by the Administrative Offices of the U.S. Courts in Washington, D.C. At said training, I learned that saliva testing is not a reliable tool for drug testing, and that the use of the sweat patch is strongly encouraged. In fiscal year 2006, the sweat patch was not utilized by Pretrial Services; however, I am currently working on reintroducing it to our staff. Furthermore, when I assumed the DATS position, the office policy was that a refractometer was to be used every time a urine sample was collected. The AO suggested that such tool be utilized only when an officer suspects the sample has been adulterated. As such, Pretrial Services Officers now use said tool only when adulteration is suspected. Additionally, all officers were provided with information on techniques and products defendants use when adulterating their own urine samples.

A breakdown of the total expenses for drug treatment in FY 2006 are listed below:

Drug Testing Devices – \$24,010.75
Outpatient Drug Treatment – \$24,794.00
Inpatient Drug Treatment – \$223,942.00

Education & Employment Services Program Report *by Devona Gardner, Senior USPSO*



Pretrial Services' Education & Employment Services Program is available to both defendants and staff. It offers information, assistance, referral, and access to a variety of services. Strong community relations and support are important when motivating pretrial defendants to strive and obtain their goals. In order to better serve our clients, legislature changes that may have an impact on pretrial defendants are monitored, and information is disseminated. Recently passed initiatives are attempting to minimize barriers to employment, in order for those with criminal convictions to re-enter society and become productive citizens by obtaining suitable jobs.

Within the Central District of California, Los Angeles County has one of the worst recidivism rates in the country. We have more ex-offenders looking for employment than any other county in the United States. There are tremendous barriers for those with criminal backgrounds to find suitable employment and housing. However, during FY 2006, three main initiatives made a name for themselves to combat the fight of recidivism, poverty, and other social related factors. The initiatives are as follows: Ban the Box (eliminate the conviction question on all city and county employment applications); Work Opportunity Tax Credit (to make the credit a permanent program that provides an incentive for employers to hire and retain those with criminal backgrounds); and the Higher Education Act-Drug Provision (to allow some students who have drug convictions to receive federal aid).

During FY 2006, a total of 75 defendants utilized the following services: employment referrals; skill and interest assessments; vocational training; high school diploma/GED assistance; resume

building; and volunteersim.

Of the 75 defendants serviced, 24 defendants sought new employment, 14 enrolled in education/vocation programs; 4 defendants participated in volunteer programs; 3 defendants sought financial assistance (including child support assistance); 21 defendants were referred to local employment centers; and 8 defendants obtained resume assistance. Approximately 50% of defendants, who sought employment, found either part-time or full-time employment.

While researching avenues to advance their careers, three Pretrial Services staff members have utilized the services of the education program. They have received assistance in application completion, major selection, and financial aid.

There are 106 One Stop/WorkSource Centers within the Central District of California. These centers are designed to provide employment and job training services at low or no-cost to the person. Due to the volume of centers, they are required to solely assist individuals who reside within their immediate jurisdictions. Furthermore, they have limited resources available to assist those with criminal convictions find suitable, full-time employment.

During FY 2006, Pretrial Services visited 10 One Stop Centers and met with their respective representatives, in order to better understand their centers and programs that could be offered to pretrial defendants. In an attempt to build partnerships, Pretrial Services communicated with representatives from the Department of Child Support Services, California Department of Corrections-Parole Division, California Employment Development Department, Los Angeles County Probation/Pretrial Services, United States Probation, and the Bureau of Prisons. Communication lines have been established with these agencies, and the goal is to create working partnerships in the near future to better assist defendants who may need a collaboration of services.

In April 2006, Pretrial Services was represented at the 2nd Annual National Offender Workforce Development Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. The conference hosted approximately 300 people from 30 states/territories. The conference shared national policies pertaining to employment counseling and working with the criminal justice community. The focus was building partnerships with other agencies and creating a strong support system for an offender to be equipped to seek and maintain suitable employment or vocational training.

The conference was instrumental in developing a plan to recognize individual districts' needs, discovering agencies that would be able to assist our clients, and ways of establishing communication with these agencies and direct employers to develop partnerships, employment opportunities, and referrals.

Prior to the conference, a national offender employment listserv was created. This electronic forum allows probation and pretrial services officers a means to connect with other officers working in the area of offender employment. This forum is a vehicle to network, consult, share ideas on best practices, innovative programs, training opportunities, and resources. Pretrial Services joined the listserv during FY 2006, and have found it to be very informative and useful.

Within the county of Los Angeles, there are approximately 15, 000 homeless children. For the third year in a row, Pretrial Services sponsored an agency wide school supply drive to assist

homeless children in the City of Los Angeles. For the 2006/2007 school year, Pretrial Services donated more than 100 items to School On Wheels, a non-profit organization that is dedicated in providing homeless children a safe haven after school and with needed school supplies.

During FY 2006, Pretrial Services implemented their internship program for college students. Pretrial Services had one summer intern that quickly became a valuable asset to the agency. The intern provided assistance to all officers and support staff by performing data entry and clerical related functions. Furthermore, the intern was able to witness pretrial interviews of recently arrested defendants, initial court hearings, and additional court proceedings. Information regarding internship opportunities was made available to the surrounding colleges and universities. For the upcoming fiscal year, Pretrial Services is looking forward to training additional interns.

For the upcoming fiscal year, Pretrial Services hopes to expand their education and employment program. The objective is to better assist defendants with their education and employment goals, and equip them with tools to be self-sufficient. The program hopes to provide training to officers to identify barriers that pretrial defendants may have, and to relate coping mechanisms to ensure compliance while on pretrial release. In addition, officers will be advised of legislature changes that may affect their clients. Pretrial Services will continue to communicate and partner with community agencies for additional resources.

Community Information and Coordination Program Overview *by Kristianna Janich, Sr. USPSO*



As another fiscal year went by, Pretrial Services expanded its information literature. Three more informational flyers were developed for Pretrial Services defendants “My Name is Meth”, “I Got Flowers Today”, and “Having Trouble Finding a Job Due to a Prior Record”. These flyers were directed to defendants to assist with methamphetamine and domestic violence abuse as well as employment. “I Got Flowers Today” includes a poem, which was written by an unknown writer, which gave a descriptive image of the dangers of domestic violence. This flyer has been written in both English and Spanish and provides local resources to assist those affected by domestic violence. “My Name is Meth” was also written by an unknown writer who described the dangers of being addicted to methamphetamine. Since this story’s message was so “powerful” it was placed in an “eye catching” brochure for the defendants. The third flyer created, “Having Trouble Finding a Job Due to a Prior Record,” lists local employment agencies which will hire defendants with criminal records. All of these informational flyers are available to defendants in the lobby as well as Pretrial Services Officers via website.

In addition to updating past created Pretrial Services brochures this fiscal year, I also collaborated with Senior Pretrial Services Officers Roger Pimentel and Devona Gardner to create two new informational brochures, the “Internship Program,” and the “Treatment Program for Sexual Offense-Related Defendants.” The Internship Program brochure was created to recruit future candidates for the Pretrial Services Internship Program. The “Treatment Program for Sexual Offense-Related Defendants” brochure describes the treatment program directed to sexual offense

defendants. Lastly, I created the informational flyer for the “Keys to Successful Incarceration Program” for Officer Camron Pitcher.

This year, I coordinated the 2nd Pretrial Services Family Day which allowed staff members to bring their family members to the courthouse to learn about Pretrial Services’ role in the court system. After the program was completed, participants were provided various literature from local law enforcement agencies relating to drugs, gangs, personal protection, gun awareness, and internet safety.

Two articles were also submitted to the *News and Views* regarding the “Keys to Successful Incarceration” Program and Family Day 2006 during this year. “Keys to Successful Incarceration” was collaborated with Officer Pitcher.

In December 2005, the Gang Awareness Team (GAT) was formed. The team consisted of Pretrial Services Officers Rachel Schnayerson, Stacey Barrios, Ada O’Neil, and myself. The team conferred with each other on a regular basis concerning gang-related subject matter that is important to our agency and others. The team members, as well as Officers Judith Glasco, Manuel Ibanez and Supervising Officers Allyson Theophile and Calvin Thomas, organized Pretrial Services’ first Gang Conference. The conference was jointly hosted by our agency and our sister probation office for pretrial and probation officers nationwide in June. I also contributed by creating the agenda for the gang conference.

The Law Enforcement Directory which lists all probation, parole, police and sheriff departments located in the Central District of California was updated during this fiscal year to include the changes that had occurred since the initial directory was created. Besides being available in paperback, it is also available on our website in order to be utilized by other districts.

During this period, Pretrial Services literature currently available on our website was also provided to other districts as a template to assist in creating their own. The Pretrial Services flowchart “Understanding Your Case” and “The Self Surrender Information” brochure was requested by local defense attorneys and other districts.

Throughout the year, officers were provided with information regarding the supervision officers’ reporting schedules, procedures for obtaining arrest reports from Los Angeles Police Department, Department of Justice forms for surrendered firearms, Law Enforcement bulletins, Los Angeles County Booking and Gang information, Quarterly Drug Price Lists, as well as officer safety information relating to dangerous weapons, search and seizure, contraband items, and gangs in the Central District of California. In addition, staff members were provided with community information for themselves and their families.

I continued to attend monthly California Gang Investigator Associations (CGIA) meetings as well as received daily CGIA emails from members relating to current gang issues across the nation. Relevant officer safety information obtained by CGIA was also provided to the office. Further, I continue to utilize my membership in various law enforcement associations to obtain important information for the office as well as build a greater network with law enforcement. I also

provided individual officers with gang information by utilizing the CalGangs database.

The “Pretrial Services Informational Presentation” slide show and Pretrial Services brochures continued to be utilized during presentations for local law enforcement and federal agencies during this fiscal year.

I feel many things were accomplished during the 2005-2006 fiscal year relating to community information. I look forward to creating more literature to assist my fellow officers, and educate the public while maintaining positive ties with local law enforcement.

Sex Offender Program Overview

by Roger Pimentel, Sr. USPSO, Sex Offender Program Specialist



In response to a growing clientele charged with sex offense related crimes, Pretrial Services first developed a comprehensive Sex Offender Management Team in November 2002. Since its inception, the program has seen significant growth in referrals and defendant population, meaningful legislation, and the implementation of innovative practices and strategies.

Our efforts and accomplishments in managing the alleged sex offender in the Central District of California, have been recognized in the past, and are noteworthy. The Administrative Office has recognized our Sex Offender Management Team as a “national model” program and cites our strategies in the *Sex Offender Management/Best Practices Manual*. Additionally, team members have regularly been invited to sit on local, state and national working groups and committees related to the community based supervision of the sex offender.

While our team efforts in the past have been viewed as innovative and has led to national recognition in the field of Sex Offender Management, this past FY 2006 proved to be busier and more challenging than ever. This was due, in large part, to the *Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006*, which was signed into legislation in July. This new law amended the Bail Reform Act and mandated electronic monitoring for many charged offenses involving the sexual exploitation of children. Additionally, the act defined rebuttable presumption statutes for certain charged sexual offenses. Pretrial Services will probably see the true impact of this new legislation in the upcoming fiscal year.

At the heart of our success during this past fiscal year in managing sexual offense related cases, was the formalization of a triad containment model, which is at the nexus of all investigation and intensive supervision strategies. This model consists of Pretrial Services Officers who are subject matter experts, the use of state of the art technology, and a specialized treatment program especially designed for pretrial defendants charged with sexual offenses. The use of this triad has proven to be successful in the containment of a defendant who is charged with sexual offenses, ultimately leading to minimizing the risk of non-appearance and danger to the community.

The Sex Offender Management Team members and subject matter experts are assigned throughout the district and consist of Senior USPSO/Program Coordinator Roger Pimentel, Senior

USPSO Manuel Ibanez, Senior USPSO Merredith Monroe, and USPSO Jiar Hill. In an effort to maintain the highest level of expertise possible, these officers all attended various training throughout the country related to the investigation and supervision of the sex offender, including sessions sponsored by the Federal Judicial Center, National Law Enforcement Technological Center, California Coalition on Sexual Offending, the Department of Justice, and the American Probation and Parole Association. Members of the Sex Offender Management Team are expected to complete at least 40 hours of specialized training annually.

During the fiscal year 2006, defendants charged with sex offense related crimes were subjected to the use of the most innovative technologies available in the field of corrections. As determined by conditions of release, any given defendant may have been required to participate in a home confinement program with the use of a Global Positioning Satellite System (GPS), thus allowing an officer to monitor a defendant in near real time. An illustration of the importance of such technology came about this past fiscal year, when a defendant charged with Possession of Child Pornography was found to be loitering at a little league field in violation of release conditions.

Other important technologies that have been implemented into supervision strategies include computer monitoring. At any given time, our staff has available at least four different software programs for this purpose. Each software program has its own unique dynamics, which may be applied to individual defendants based on release conditions or case history.

The third component of the Pretrial Services containment model, which was implemented this past fiscal year, is the use of a specialized mental health program for defendants charged with sex offense related crimes. In past years, it was nearly impossible to refer a defendant charged with a sex offense to any type of counseling or therapy, as the fear of self-incrimination during the treatment process loomed within the defense community.

In response to this need, Pretrial Services worked collaboratively with a local mental health provider and the Federal Public Defender's Office to develop a district-wide program designed for Pretrial Services defendants. The curriculum was designed to serve as a weekly crisis intervention and cognitive behavioral therapy program, in which confidentiality was protected, and potential self incrimination eliminated.

The program has proven to be tremendously beneficial to clients, as it manages the impact of arrest, has identified individuals with suicidal ideation, and has prepared many for the prospects of federal incarceration. During the previous fiscal year (2005), there were no mental health referrals for charged sex offenders, mostly due to lack of appropriate programming. During the fiscal year 2006, the newly-implemented program has averaged approximately 17 defendants on any given month, and resulted in expenditures of \$47,413. Defendants also contributed to the cost of the program, as Pretrial Services collected \$7,705 in co-payments.

Overall, the Sex Offender Management Team has worked at an extraordinary level during this past fiscal year. I am confident that our team of committed and experienced professionals will continue to serve the court in an outstanding manner, further distinguishing it as a national leader

in the very important field of Sex Offender Management.



New Policies & Procedures Overview & Events

by George M. Walker, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

We take great pride in the fact that, in a majority of situations, staff are encouraged to participate in planning, to serve on planning committees, and to express their ideas, concerns, and creativity whenever possible. Our office staff and administration collaborated on a number of policy and procedure changes this past year.

New/Revised Policies & Procedures:

We piloted and then instituted our new policy on Telework for qualifying staff. We continue to encourage applicable staff to take advantage of our menu of alternative work schedules, which also includes flex-time, a 9/80 pay period, and standard hours.

Periodic Unit Executive Meetings

In our ongoing effort to practice effective communications and coordination between all major court units, the Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer continues to meet periodically with the Clerk of Court/District Executive, the Chief U.S. Probation Officer and the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court. These joint meetings provide an excellent opportunity for the Unit Executives to exchange information, discuss local and national trends, update each other on operations, and much more.

Meetings with the Judges' Court Services Committee

The Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer meets periodically with the Judges' Court Services Committee in an effort to bring matters of concern to their attention, to update them on operations, to request guidance in matters that directly affect court service, etc.

Meetings with the Chief Judge

Our new Chief Judge, Alicemarie H. Stotler, came into her new responsibilities with some new ways of doing conducting business. A highlight was her desire to have monthly meetings with Chief Pretrial Services Officer to foster good communication through regular face-to-face contact. In a very large and very busy district such as ours, there is no shortage of meetings and events for our Chief Judge. Consequently, her desire to add to her administrative workload by spending some quality time with the Chief Pretrial Services Officer is very much appreciated and has yielded a very professional and enjoyable mutual working relationship.



Chief Walker is flanked by our Chief Judge, Alicemarie H. Stotler (right) and our Chief Magistrate Judge, Ralph Zarefsky (left), following an induction ceremony for new pretrial services officers.

Meetings with the Chief Magistrate Judge

The Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, in conjunction with the Deputy Chief and Los Angeles-based Supervisory staff, meet on a monthly basis with our Chief Magistrate Judge Ralph Zarefsky. This permits us to discuss matters of mutual concern and to ensure regular, maximum, and effective communication between our agency and our twenty-plus Magistrate Judges.

Meetings with Magistrate Judges

The Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer will periodically attend the Magistrate Judges' monthly meeting to present new information, to discuss issues of importance, or appear when otherwise requested.

Staff Training, Education, and Inservice Programs Overview

by Jill F. McClain, Deputy Chief USPSO



We continue to emphasize the importance of training and were fortunate to have all staff attend many different training classes. We believe ongoing training increases our knowledge and skills which will only enhance our service to the court, clients, and community. This year, more than 6201 hours of training were provided for staff, representing an average of 89 training hours per person (based on 69 staff). The following is a list of the various training programs attended by staff in FY 2006:

Automation, Communication Skills, Computer Skills (WordPerfect, Lotus Notes, PACTSecm, Technology, Cyber Crime, Public Records), Critical Incident Stress Management, Cultural Awareness, Drugs and Mental Health, Electronic Monitoring, Emergency Preparedness, Ethics, Firearms Classroom and Range, Gambling Addiction, Gangs, Health Issues, Human Resources/Personnel, Identity Theft, Leadership Development, Management, New Officer Training, Officer Safety Skills, Organizational Skills, Pretrial Issues, Procurement/Contracts, Rap Sheet Interpretation, Retirement, Sex Offenders, Spanish Skills, Team building, Telework, and Terrorism.

Training for new officers previously consisted of a one week program conducted by the Federal Judicial Center (FJC) in Washington, D.C. During this fiscal year, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO) began conducting the new officer training program in Charleston, South Carolina at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. This is an intensive six-week program that has been designed to meet the training needs of new officers.

One of our groups of new officers was in the inaugural class. We had a total of eight officers successfully complete the program during the year. The program includes courses on the national policies and practices related to the pretrial and probation functions as well as courses on interviewing and testifying skills. New officers learn about dealing with defendants with issues related to mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, and sexual offenses. The training program is highly interactive. Safety training is integrated throughout the program. Additionally, it encompasses tactical training in the gym with a focus on defensive tactics and the proper use of OC spray. Finally, there is a course on non-emergency vehicle operation, including skid control, and approximately 40 hours of firearms training.

Other staff attended FLETC and completed Firearm Instructor Recertification, and Initial Safety Instructor Certification.

In addition to court-sponsored training, on their own, staff took the initiative to further their education...U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Damion Davis received his Master of Arts Degree in Organization Management, and Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Clerk Vickie Trigg received her Associates Degree in Criminal Justice.

We continued to assist the AO and 9th Circuit in various meaningful ways by serving on advisory councils, committees, and working groups. Our staff involvement over the past fiscal year was as follows:

- AO Technology and Facilities Membership-Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer George Walker
- AO Administrative Services Methods Analysis Program Steering Committee - George Walker
- 9th Circuit Administrative Services Strategies Group - George Walker
- 9th Circuit IT Committee - George Walker
- AO Court Compensation Study (focus group participant)-Deputy Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Jill McClain
- Information Technology Security and Network Management Membership-Director of Information Technology Luis Dimagiba
- 9th Circuit IT Managers Committee - Luis Dimagiba
- Safety and Integrity Reporting System Membership-Supervising U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Eli Goren
- Pretrial Services Working Group Membership-Supervising U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Allyson Theophile
- OPPS Case Transfer Workgroup Membership- Supervising U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Calvin Thomas, Jr.
- Probation and Pretrial Services Mobile Technology Working Group-Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Manuel Ibáñez

Likewise, we continued to contribute to the FJC:

- Pretrial Services and Probation Education Committee-Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

- George Walker
- E-Learning Instructional Design Work Group-Deputy Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Jill McClain
 - Presented the program “Hire the Right Person: Effective Interviewing” to the Western District of Missouri probation office-Deputy Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Jill McClain
 - New Supervisor’s Program (faculty)-Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Lauren Robinson
 - Cybercrime Investigation and Supervision Distance Seminar (advisory committee)- U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Roger Pimentel Jr.
 - Leadership Development Program for Probation and Pretrial Services Officers (participants)-Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Allyson Theophile and U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Roger Pimentel Jr.

Chief Walker continues to share his technological knowledge with others. In FY2006, he was invited to conduct a presentation entitled “Innovative Technologies” to the 9th Circuit Chief District Judges in Tucson, AZ, and to the 9th Circuit Technology User’s Group in Seattle, WA.

2006 Staff Awards Program

The purpose of the Employee Recognition Awards Program is to recognize outstanding achievement by individuals and organizational units in the performance of their duties; to improve morale, encourage esprit de corps, and inspire greater achievement; to promote organizational identification and career commitment; and, to encourage and reward innovative thinking.

LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS

These awards are given in recognition of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years or more of federal service, in accordance with Administrative Office’s Length of Service Awards program.

5 Year Recipients

Damion Davis, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer
Merredith Monroe, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer
Camron Pitcher, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer
Pamela Pozo, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer
Todd Sauber, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

10 Year Recipients

Manuel Ibáñez, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer
Calvin Thomas, Jr., Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer
Lisa Ungaro, Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

15 Year Recipients

Robert Dowd, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer
Mattie McEachern, Personnel Administrator
Carol Summerfield, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Clerk

20 Year Recipients

Shirley Hibino, Executive Assistant
Wilhelmina Jones, Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

BILINGUAL AWARDS

The bilingual award is “granted to employees who speak a second language and use it consistently in the course of their regular duties and/or when needed/requested by the agency. In order to recognize those who are fluent in a second language, as well as to encourage staff to learn and become proficient in the work-related use of a second language, three levels of awards are offered.”

Bilingual Staff: **Fernando Basulto, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Adriana Corona, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Elizabeth Flores, U.S. Pretrial Services Clerk; Samuel Hernandez, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Shirley Hyatt, PACTS Specialist; Manuel Ibáñez, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Kristianna Janich, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Amy Kerbeck, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Teresa Loza, Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Brenda Mercado, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Denisse Mirkin, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Ada Castillo-O’Neil, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Brenda Orantes, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Oanh Pham, Data Quality Analyst; Roger Pimentel, Jr., U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Sandra Rueda, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Todd Sauber, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Michelle Sumpter, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Silvia Torres, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; and Yvette Trepichio, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer.**

IMPROVEMENT/INNOVATION

The improvement/innovation award is “granted to an employee or group of employees for an adopted suggestion which, when implemented, will directly and demonstrably contribute to productivity, economy, or efficiency of office operations; or will directly increase effectiveness in carrying out the mission of the Pretrial Services Office. Suggestions for improvement or innovation may be connected with or related to an employee’s job.”

The following staff member has received an improvement/innovation award based on nominations from fellow staff:

Camron Pitcher, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer

SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD

The special service award is “granted to an employee or group of employees (2 or more) for a one-time contribution in the court and public interest that exceeds normal job requirements. Contributions may be connected with or related to an employee’s job, but should not be a normal job requirement. The special act should be something exceptional and be deemed “above and beyond” the normal requirements of an employee’s job. Special Service Awards will not be granted for contributions that are clearly within the scope of an employee’s normal duties and responsibilities.”

The following staff members have received a special service award based on nominations from fellow staff:

Committee for 9th Circuit Symposium on Sexual Offending: Jiar Hill, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Merredith Monroe, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Roger Pimentel, Jr., U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Karin Storm, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; and Allyson Theophile, Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer.

Committee for the National Gang Symposium: Stacey Barrios, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Luis Dimagiba, Systems Manager; Elizabeth Flores, U.S. Pretrial Services Clerk; Judith Glasco, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Al Grenier, Budget and Facilities Specialist; Manuel Ibáñez, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Kristianna Janich, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Ada Castillo-O’Neil, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Rachel Schnayerson, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Allyson Theophile, Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Calvin Thomas, Jr., Supervisory U.S. Pretrial Services Officer; Devin Thompkins, U.S. Pretrial Services Clerk; and Nicole Vance, U.S. Pretrial Services Clerk.

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR - DEVIN THOMPKINS

The support staff of the year award is “granted to the support staff member who epitomizes excellence in his/her role in pretrial services - an individual who not only performs regularly assigned duties in an outstanding manner, but also frequently volunteers to take on additional assignments/duties, and has made significant contributions to our office and/or the system.”



Devin Thompkins, U.S. Pretrial Services Clerk, is the recipient of this award. Nominations from fellow staff stated the following:

“I believe Devin is an excellent candidate to receive this award because Devin has always been a person who is willing to go that extra mile for the agency. When Devin first began his employment, one of our officer staff had left the agency. The officer had more than 250 cases that needed redistributing, several months of documents needed filing, and chronological records needed to be entered into PACTS. Within a few days, Devin alphabetized the documents, entered some

chronos into pacts, filed the documents, transferred the officers in pacts, cleared voice mail messages, and helped redistribute the cases. I was amazed on how quickly he was able to complete this task.”

“I believe Devon is an excellent candidate to receive this award because he has been so helpful in the past while maintaining a positive attitude. I do not recall an incident that he did not complete a clerical task efficiently. He has also helped me on things outside of his regular clerical duties- especially folding brochures for me at the last minute. He will also stop what he is doing (even if it is his lunch) and assist me with the copy machine when it is having "issues." He is always a pleasure to be around and I appreciate all of his past hard work.”

“I believe Devin is an excellent candidate to receive this award because of his commitment, team work and professionalism. Almost on a daily basis, I find Devin hard at work at his desk at 6:30 a.m. During the past year, I have asked Devin for assistance, whether it has been to run a few copies of a training manual for a class I was in the middle of teaching, or perhaps running an urgent CLETS, or asking to help one of my officers with a stack of filings or closings, Devin always gladly says, "YES." He is always polite, professional and courteous. He is truly a team player and enjoys helping others in the office. Thanks, Devin!”

OFFICER OF THE YEAR - ROGER PIMENTEL, JR.

The officer of the year award is “granted to the PSO who epitomizes excellence in his/her role in pretrial services - an individual who not only performs regularly assigned duties in an outstanding manner, but also frequently volunteers to take on additional assignments/duties, and has made significant contributions to our office and/or the system over the course of the preceding year or longer.”



Roger Pimentel, U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, is the recipient of this award. Nominations from fellow staff stated the following:

“I believe Roger is an excellent candidate to receive this award because of his commitment in improving/developing a nationally recognized sex offender program for pretrial defendants. This program has provided numerous defendants much needed information and psychological treatment in dealing with depression, anxiety and possible suicidal thoughts

while they await adjudication through the courts.

These individuals previously received little or no treatment while on bail. Feedback from defendants and their attorneys has been very positive. Roger has been selected to participate in a work group with the American Probation and Parole Association to help develop a national model. Roger's efforts have been recognized by the Administrative Office and his program will be adopted into the AO's model policy on supervising sex offenders. In addition to his caseload of sex offenders, Roger maintains an active number of other GPS cases. Roger is always willing to lend a hand to help a fellow officer and it is not uncommon to see Roger at Roybal after hours, waiting for a late release.

To further illustrate Roger's commitment to the defendants, in May of this year, he was

instrumental in saving two lives. He had been supervising a defendant since September 2005. He was a summons case, charged with possession of child pornography. He was released with very minimal conditions. He had no prior record and had an RPI score of zero.

The defendant entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to 48 months custody with lifetime supervised release to follow. He was granted a self-surrender date in mid June 06.

On May 2, 2006, the defendant reported to our office for a regular scheduled office visit and to attend the Keys to Successful Incarceration program. Roger enrolled him for the event. The defendant was accompanied by his wife. During the office visit, the defendant appeared to be depressed. He reported to Roger that he was or had been thinking of suicide. His wife then indicated she wanted to join her husband in committing suicide. Roger discussed the matter with the defendant and his wife. The defendant and his wife then attended the KEYS program. During the presentation, Roger briefed the situation with me. We concurred that an immediate notification to the court was warranted and that a bench warrant request was the proper course of action. Secondly, we planned to contact a psychiatric emergency team (PET) to provide immediate services to the defendant's wife.

Roger immediately notified the judge of the situation. In the mean time, PSO Davis made contact with the PET team for immediate services in our office. The defendant was taken into custody following the KEYS program. His wife was seen by the PET.

The next day, at a hearing before the judge to address the defendant's situation, the judge commended the quick action of the pretrial services officer. The defendant's counsel expressed his appreciation for Roger's quick response. The defendant provided a 20 minute account of what has been going on in his life since he was sentenced. He acknowledged having thoughts of suicide. He also mentioned visiting with a psychiatrist and social worker within the past week. The defendant understood Mr. Pimentel's concern, and he also commented on the benefit of the KEYS program.

The defendant was ordered re-released and Mr. Pimentel's suggested additional conditions of release, including mental health, were adopted by the court. The quick actions taken by Roger may have saved the lives of at least two individuals.”

“I believe Roger is an excellent candidate to receive this award because of the innovative approach he takes to his work and the agency’s mission. Since becoming a member of the Sex Offender team and now a specialist, Roger has worked hard to provide our agency with training, the latest technology, and commitment to the program. He was instrumental in hosting our agencies first 9th Circuit Sex Offender conference, participated in putting together the sex offender policy, and helped the Administrative Office by providing information on the sex offender population and new trends.

Roger not only is an EM officer with an EM caseload, but he also continues to supervise the bulk of the sex offender cases. This is not an easy task. Even with this heavy responsibility, Roger was selected as a participant out of over several hundred applicants for the Leadership Development program offered by the Federal Judicial Center. This is a very rigorous program which requires commitment, dedication, and hard work. Roger has managed to balance all of this and still have

the energy to come up with more innovative ideas for the agency. Additionally, Roger is a representative for our agency for the FPPOA. He is the agency's spokesperson when it comes to sex offenders, and he is doing an excellent job.

Roger always seems to be full of energy and is willing to assist staff. He has a professional demeanor, is thought provoking, and has provided the agency with a wealth of information. Roger has also provided the agency with many of our firsts such as, the sex offender conference, the sex offender policy, the consolidation of the sex offender team, and as a representative of our agency to the AO's office.

Roger has been an invaluable resource to me. He has assisted me with the telework project, the sex offender symposium, and the gang symposium. As a fellow LDP participant, Roger has been very supportive and keeps me on my toes.

Roger has made significant contributions to our agency and I believe he is deserving of the Officer of the Year award."

Annual Staff Retreat Overview

by Shirley A. Hibino, Executive Assistant to the Chief



This year, the theme of the annual staff retreat was **"Team Building and Communications"** and it was held on August 9-11, in scenic, coastal Ventura, California, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, situated directly on Ventura Beach. Most of the sleeping rooms had beautiful views of the ocean, and staff and guests thoroughly enjoyed the resort-like atmosphere.

Within walking distance of the beach and downtown Ventura, the terrific location of the hotel makes it a very desirable venue for conferences and vacations. The Ventura County Fair, which happened to be in town that week, was only a five-minute walk from the hotel and it had a wonderful lineup of live entertainment, in addition to rides, booths, and many other attractions.



Our meeting space was in the Harbor View Room, which has a very large room with a spectacular 360-degree view of both the mountains and the ocean. The training program was unique and exciting and there was everything from classroom-style training to training right on the beach. Opening remarks were given by George Walker, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, Loretta Martin, Chief U.S. Probation Officer and Sherri R. Carter, District Court Executive. The Staff Awards and Recognition Program was presented by Jill McClain, Deputy Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer and Mattie McEachern, Personnel Administrator. The following coveted awards were bestowed on deserving staff: Length of Service, Bilingual, Special Service,

Improvement/Innovation, Support Staff of the Year and Officer of the Year. The annual group photo was taken and the 2006 retreat was officially underway!

Over the next couple of days, the training sessions encompassed the following topics:

Cyber Crime - Presented by Danny Miller, Senior Investigator with the Ventura County District Attorney's Office

Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle While Working Fulltime - Presented by Jennifer Henig, U.S. Probation Officer, and Sharyn Gabriel-Poulson, Certified Group Exercise Instructor. These two qualified ladies showed us Pilates, stretching and aerobic techniques for relieving stress and made us sweat!

Team Building on the Beach - Presented by Lodestone Adventures, Big Bear, California. This all day training was truly an exciting opportunity for staff to sharpen their team building skills and learn new methods of cooperation with coworkers. This training was held right on the beach on a beautiful, sunny day. The seven Lodestone trainers were humorous and enthusiastic and got everyone "revved up" for the day's activities, which included a wide variety of exercises that challenged us physically and mentally. The group of 60 staff (and some guests) was divided up into teams and each was presented with several problematic, timed tasks which they had to solve and execute as a team. Some examples are as follows:



- Getting from one "island" to the other by stepping on small squares and not touching the sand.
- Pouring water in a large cylinder filled with holes without losing any water.
- Walking a certain distance in a line without losing any of the balloons that were placed between the team members.
- Pouring water from one bucket to another, using 2-3 foot half-cylinders and trying not to lose any.
- Navigating through a maze, directed only by the trainer's clues.
- Moving as a group, leaving no one behind, with only a limited number of "walking" objects.

These exercises were very challenging and required everyone on a team to contribute their ideas, creativity, and physical abilities. When the day was over, exhausted, happy, and tanned, everyone realized how much can be accomplished when putting aside differences and working towards a common goal. It made the participants look at each other in a different way from previously, and

realize that with the right attitude and teamwork, the sky is the limit! Everyone had a great time and mentioned that they want to do it again next year!



Happy staff celebrate a successful team challenge!



Understanding Islam and the Middle East

Presented by Claude Jubran, Investigator, CA Highway Patrol

Detective Jubran, a noted expert on Middle Eastern culture, customs and ideology, gave us a very thought-provoking and insightful look into current affairs in the Middle East and how it all relates to U.S. and local interests.

**How many staff can fit on a 4 x 4 pallette? One to go...
Do they succeed? In typical pretrial team fashion...YES!**



Group Dinner - The night before we adjourned, there was a group dinner planned by the Retreat Social Committee, so that staff and their families could all get together for a delicious meal, fun and relaxation.



Hospitality Suite - A hospitality suite was open every evening so people could “drop by,” socialize, and discuss the day’s training.

In summary, this year’s retreat was hailed as our best yet and the lessons learned from the thought-provoking training will last long after its conclusion. It is a hard act to follow but we are up for the challenge next year!

Our 2006 annual staff/guests retreat photo:
2005 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND PARTY
by Shirley Hibino, Executive Assistant

On December 15, 2005, the Pretrial Services staff celebrated the holidays at a festive potluck luncheon at the Roybal Federal Building. The large room, a few doors down from the Investigations Unit, was perfectly decorated to fit the occasion and everyone cheerfully got into the holiday spirit. The sumptuous “spread” of dishes and desserts, many of them home made, was enjoyed immensely by all.

This year, the holiday committee tried something a little different by organizing a “Secret Santa” drawing. A month prior, at the Thanksgiving luncheon, staff drew names for a gift exchange to



occur at the holiday luncheon. To make things easier for their Santas, participants wrote down their favorites (i.e., food and color), hobbies, and “wish list” items. The excitement had been building for days and there was a lot of fun and laughter as the gifts were opened and the Santas revealed their identities.

Soon afterward, George Walker, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, announced the winners of the door decorating contest, which had been selected the day before by Loretta Martin, Chief U.S. Probation Officer.

Most Creative: Al Grenier



Most Traditional: Shon DeJongh



Most Original: Sandra Rueda and Devona Gardner

The holiday party was a huge success and the committee members who worked so hard to plan it to be commended for their efforts and creativity. They were:

Devona Gardner
Happy Holiday Party Committee Members
Sandra Rueda
Shirley Hibino
Karin Storm
Al Grenier



com
are
creat

Som

Shon Dejongh
Melissa McGuinness
Denisse Mirkin
Adriana Corona
Brenda Orantes

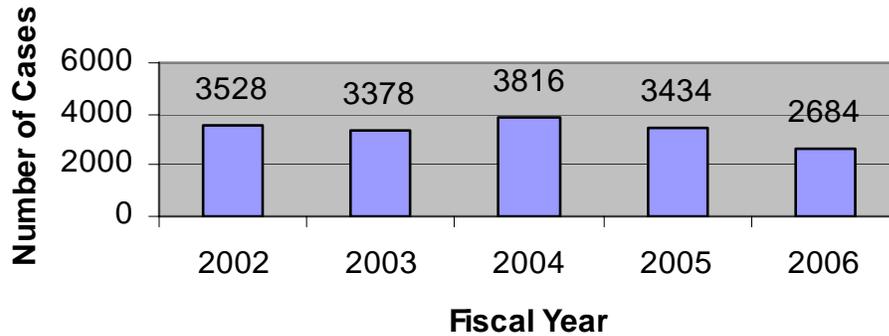
Secret Santas Revealed!



Agency FY2006 Statistics
by Shirley Hyatt, PACTS Specialist



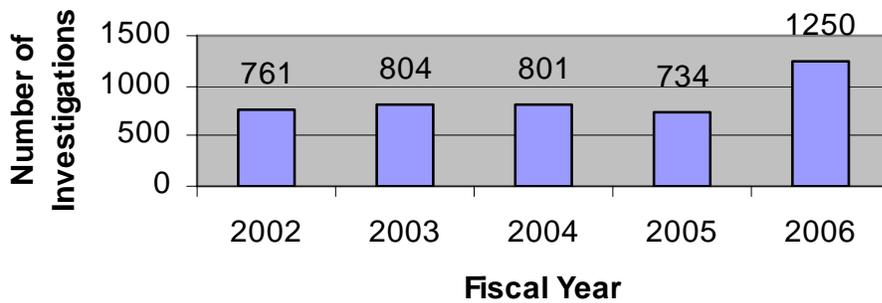
Total of Cases Activated



Includes courtesy supervision cases, diversions cases, and matwit cases; excludes collateral investigation cases.

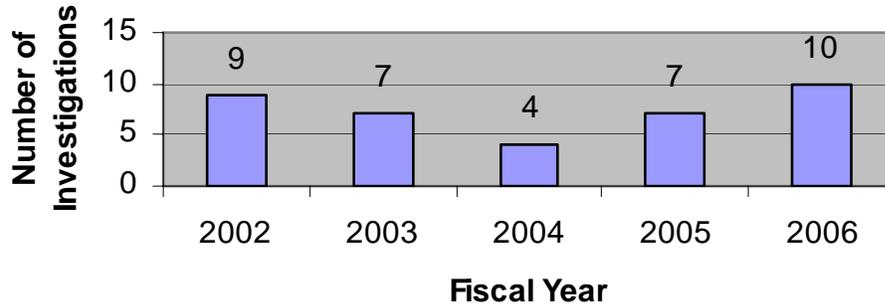
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	3528	3378	3816	3434	2684

Total of Collateral Investigations



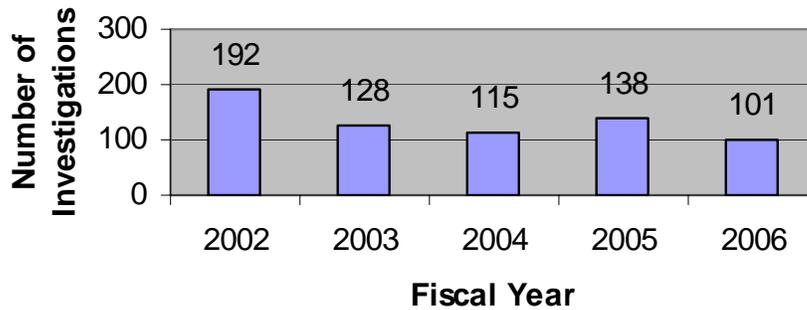
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	761	804	801	734	1250

Total of Diversion Investigations



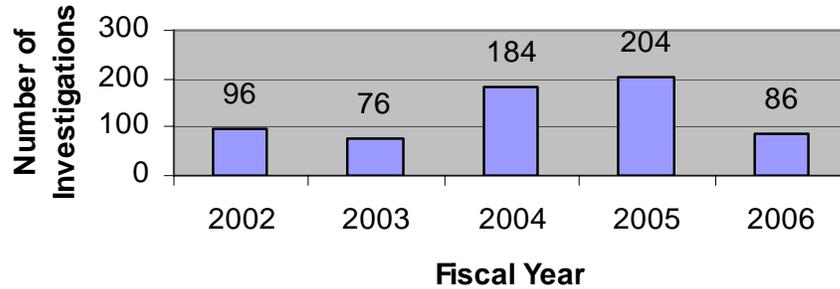
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	9	7	4	7	10

Total of Violation Investigations



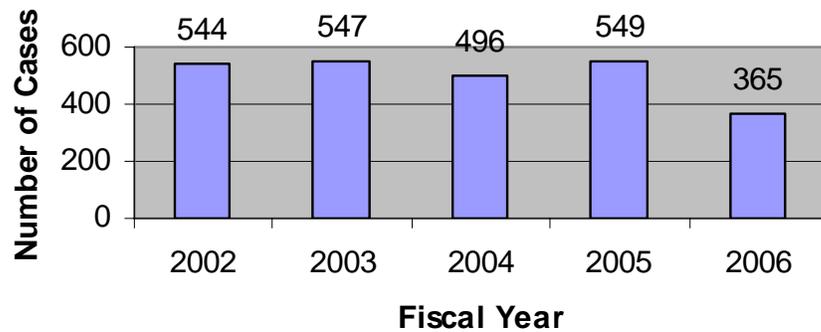
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	192	128	115	138	101

Total of MATWIT Investigations



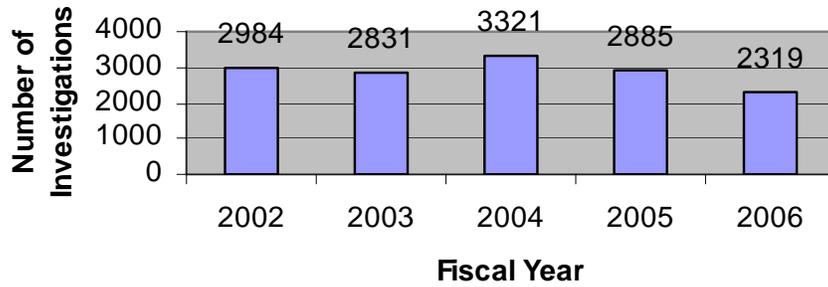
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	96	76	184	204	86

Courtesy Supervision Caseload



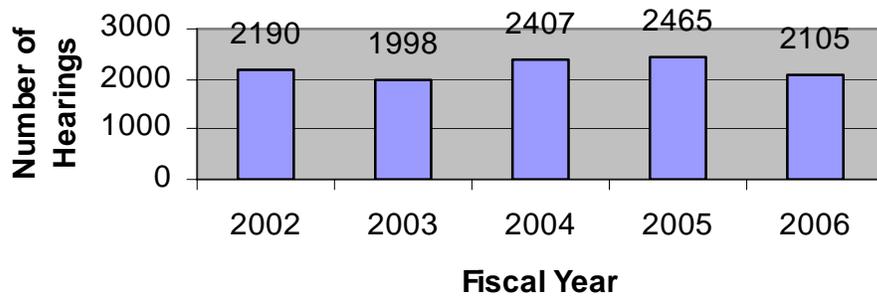
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	544	547	496	549	365

Total of CAC Investigations



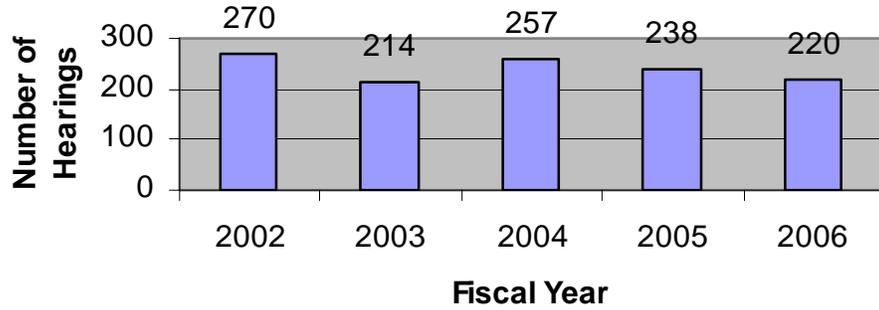
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	2984	2831	3321	2885	2319

Total of Detention Hearings



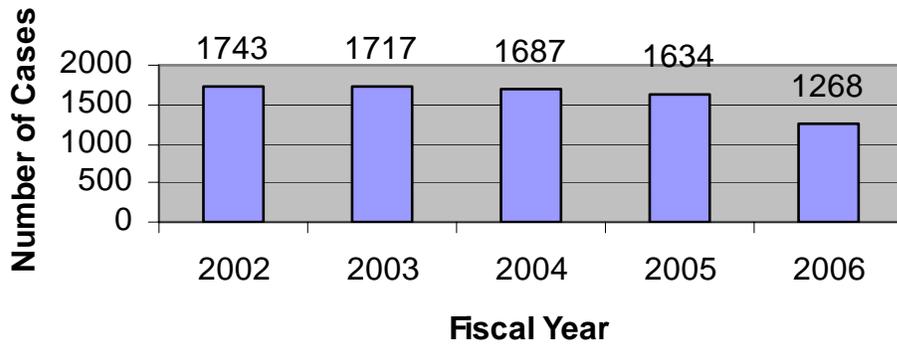
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	2190	1998	2407	2465	2105

Total of Bail Review Hearings



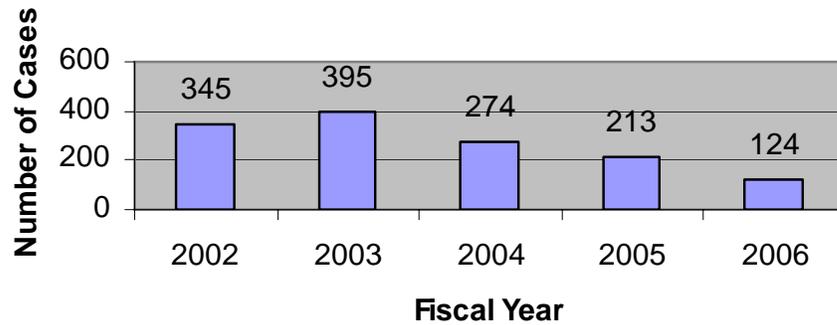
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	270	214	257	238	220

Total of PSA Supervision Activated



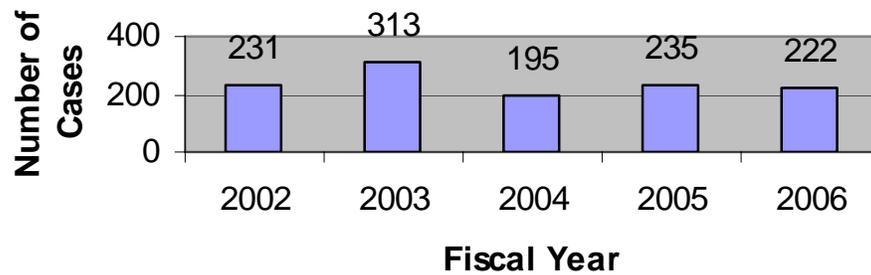
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	1743	1717	1687	1634	1268

Total of Drug Treatments Ordered



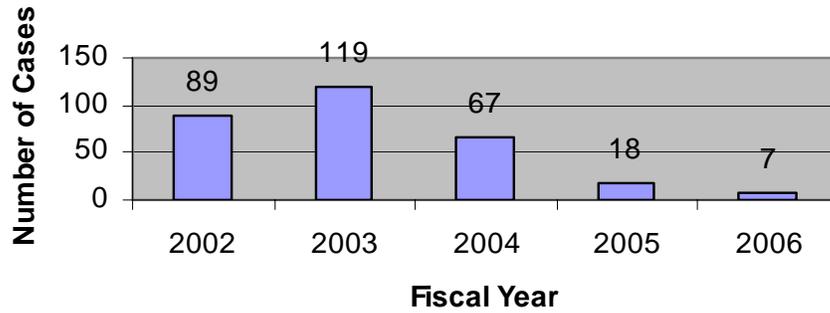
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	345	395	274	213	124

Total of Electronic Monitoring Ordered



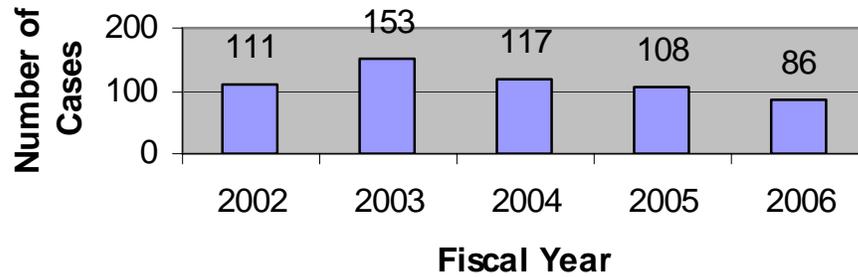
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	231	313	193	235	222

Total of Home Confinements Ordered



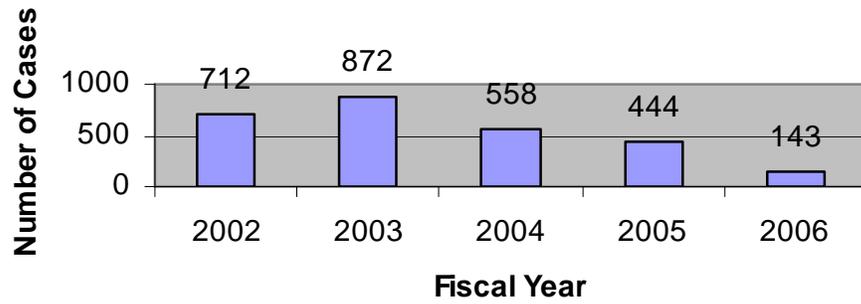
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	89	119	67	18	7

Total of Mental Health Treatments Ordered



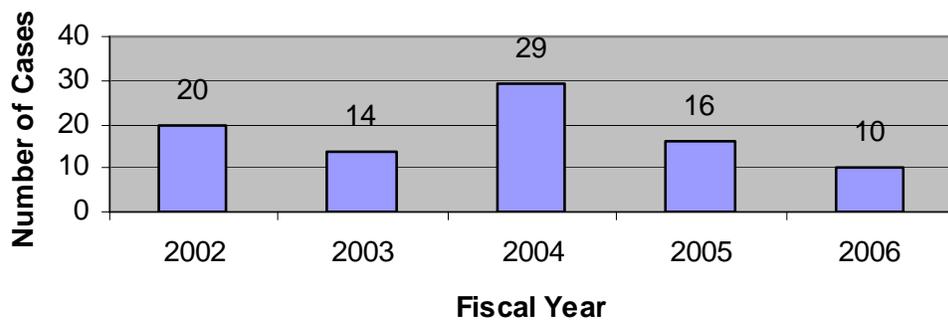
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	111	153	117	108	86

Total of Urine Surveillances Ordered



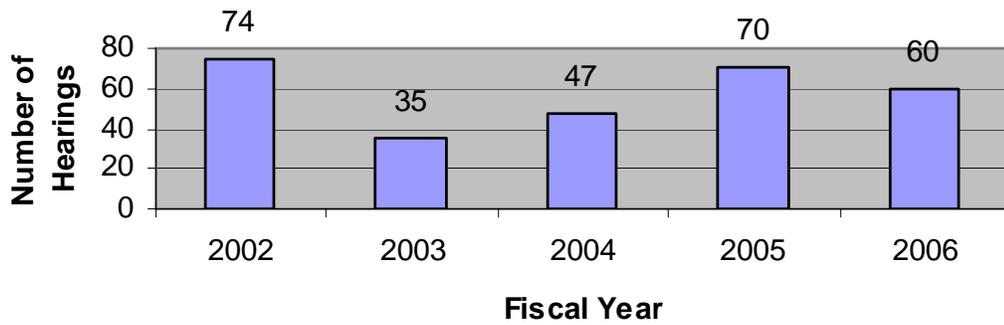
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	712	872	558	444	143

Total of Fugitive Caseload



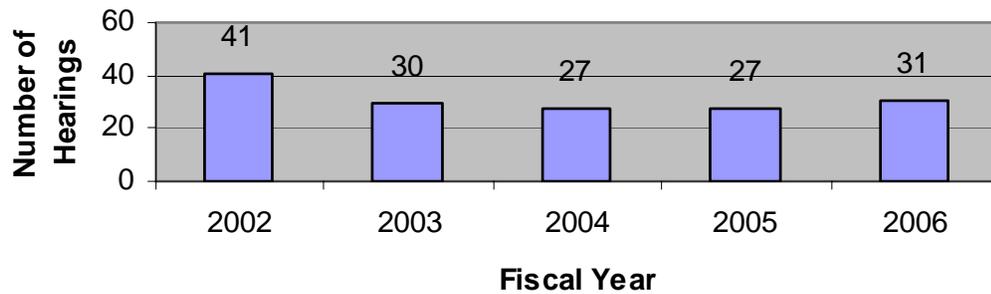
FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	20	14	29	16	10

Violation Hearings Held



FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	74	35	47	70	60

Remanded After Violation Hearings



FY	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Cases	41	30	27	27	31